# Record Group 104. Entry 11.

## Correspondence with Branch Mints and Assay Offices, 1835-98.

## New Orleans
## 1851

Digitized April 4-20, 2023, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Volumes in Box 34 for 1851-1853 are shown in this table:

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RG 104 RECORDS OF THE
BUREAU OF THE MINT

U.S. Mint At Philadelphia,
1791-1936

Correspondence, 1792-1904

CORRESPONDENCE WITH BRANCH MINTS
AND ASSAY OFFICES, 1835-98

New Orleans, La.;
Branch Mint:
1851 - 1853

BOX NO. NC-152 E-11 HM1992
34

NEW ORLEANS, 1851

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans January 3rd 1851

Sir,

I send herewith our Statement for December 1850, and also a memorandum of the coins reserved for assaying during that month, and forwarded to you by this day's mail —

I received from Mr. McAlpin, on the 31st ulto. a note informing me that he had been furnished with his commission as Superintendent of this Mint, and expressing a desire to take possession of the office on the next day, if practicable — You will find enclosed a copy of my reply.

I will, in the course of three or four days, close my official career and correspondence with you, by forwarding the annual accounts and settlements of the Coiner and Melter and Refiner of this Mint.

Very respectfully
Yr. obt. Servt.
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

Dr. R. M. Patterson.
Director
of the Mint of the U. S.
Philadelphia

From,

J. M. Kennedy Supt

New Orleans

Recd. 13 3 Jan. 1851

January 1851

"Copy"

United States Branch Mint
New Orleans, Janury 1st 1851

R. M. McAlpin Esqr

Dr Sir,

In reply to your's of yesterday, which I did not receive untill after 3 o'clock, I beg leave to state that it woul gratify me exceedingly to comply with your desire to receive the Books & papers of my Office and Commence the duties thereof with the new year; and under ordinary circumstances, there would be no obstacle in the way. But the business of 1850 which has necessarily remained unfinished, must be brought to a close, and all the transactions of the Mint, between the officers, which occured under my Superintendence, can not be completed and wound up without my co-operation - This shall all be done in the speediest possible manner. The principal item will be the settlement of the annual accounts, during which the operations of Coinage are generally suspended. All the business of the old year, can, in the opinion of the officers be got through within a week. If you be willing to defer the transfer in question until that day, leaving it to us to settle our old affairs, your own Official Start may, in consequence thereof, be a little smoother. - In the mean time, any information that you may desire from me, touching your new duties, is heartily at your Service

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
(Signed) J. M. Kennedy

# Statement of Gold and Silver coins reserved for assaying, at the Branch Mint of the United States New Orleans, during the Month of December 1850

| Date. | | Deliveries. | deliveries. | Pieces. | Value | | Total Value. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Dollars | Cts | Dollars | Cts |
| 1850 | | Gold | | | | | | |
| December | 14 | Double Eagles | 15.750 | 16 | 320 | 00 | | |
| | 26 | Quarter Eagles | 2.000 | 2 | 5 | 00 | | |
| | " | Gold Dollars | 10.000 | 10 | 10 | 00 | | |
| | 28 | Gold Dollars | 4.000 | 4 | 4 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 339 | 00 |
| | | Silver | | | | | | |
| Decr. | 13 | Half Dollars | 82.000 | 16 | 8 | 00 | | |
| | " | Half Dimes | 180.000 | 36 | 1 | 80 | | |
| | 16 | Half Dollars | 56.000 | 11 | 5 | 50 | | |
| | " | Dimes | 70.000 | 14 | 1 | 40 | | |
| | 26 | Half Dollars | 28.000 | 6 | 3 | 00 | | |
| | " | Quarter Dollars | 100.000 | 20 | 5 | 00 | | |
| | " | Half Dimes | 10.000 | 2 | | 10 | | |
| | | | | | | | 24 | 80 |
| | | | | | | | 363 | 80 |

Branch Mint of the U. States
New Orleans December 31st 1850

J. Wikes
Treasurer

Wm. P. Hort Assayer.

U S Branch Mint
New Orleans January 7th 1851

Dr R M Patterson
Director of the Mint of the U S
Philadelphia

Sir

I duly received yours of 20th Decr since which time I have taken possession of the Books Papers &c appertaining to my Office. In compliance with your request I acknowledge the receipt of Dies as per enclosed statement — The Head dies say Sixty for 1850 — and Thirty Tail dies were cancelled yesterday in my presence — Dr Hort desires "that the assay department may not be delayed" that you will forward at your earliest convenience 4 Dozen Muffles of the usual size employed in the analysis of Gold and Silver Bullion —

Your several Bbls of Acid are to hand, I will continue to keep you informed of all matters touching the interest of the Mint — I am very respy Your obt Servt

R. M. McAlpin

Supdt Branch Mint

From,

R. M. McAlpin, Esq

New Orleans

7 Jan. 1857

Rec'd 16

The following is A Statement showing the number & denomination of the Coining Dies of the Year 1850.– The number & denomination Cancelled and Reserved Jany 6th 1851.– also The dies Received (from Philadelphia) at this Mint Decr 31st 1850. & The number and denomination of all the dies on hand for use in the Year 1851. —

| Denomination | Total number of Dies of the Year 1850 | | The number of Dies of the Year 1850 Cancelled & Reserved for use in Year 1851. on Jany 6th 1851. | | | | Dies Recd Decr 31st 1850. for use in the Year 1851. | | Total number of Dies reserved & received for use in the Year 1851. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | Cancelled | | Reserved | | | | | |
| | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails |
| Double Eagle | 2 | 2 | 2 | – | – | 2 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 8 |
| Eagle | 8 | 10 | 8 | 1 | – | 9 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 11 |
| Half Eagle | 4 | 20 | 4 | – | – | 20 | 2 | – | 2 | 20 |
| Quarter Eagle | 4 | 18 | 4 | 6 | – | 12 | 4 | – | 4 | 12 |
| Gold Dollar | 6 | 7 | 6 | 2 | – | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 9 |
| Silver Dollar | 2 | 11 | 2 | – | – | 11 | 4 | – | 4 | 11 |
| Half Dollar | 16 | 21 | 16 | 10 | – | 11 | 16 | 16 | 16 | 27 |
| Quarter Dollar | 6 | 15 | 6 | 1 | – | 14 | 4 | – | 4 | 14 |
| Dime | 6 | 14 | 6 | 6 | – | 8 | 6 | – | 6 | 8 |
| Half Dime | 6 | 11 | 6 | 4 | – | 7 | 6 | – | 6 | 7 |
| | 60 | 129 | 60 | 30 | – | 99 | 56 | 28 | 56 | 127 |

## Recapitulation

| | Heads | Tails |
|---|---|---|
| Total Number of Dies of the Year 1850 — | 60 | 129 |
| Deduct Total number of Dies Cancelled this date Jany 6th 1851. | 60 | 30 |
| Shows " – " – Reserved for use in Year 1851. | – | 99 |
| Add " " " " Received Decr 31st 1850 for. 1851 | 56 | 28 |
| Total Coining Dies on hand for use in Year 1851 | 56 | 127 |

United States Branch Mint New Orleans
Coiners Office Jany 6th 1851.

Branch Mint U.S.
New Orleans January 11th 1851

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint of the U.S.
Philadelphia

Sir

I enclose you a copy of a requisition made on me by the Melter and Refiner — an early attention to his requisite will greatly facilitate the operation of the Mint. Our Stock of Gold Bullion is very considerable say $500.000 — and probably $1000.000 in the City which will be deposited as soon as we are ready to receive. The Treasurer Mr Hickes is using every effort to get his acct ready to make his transfer — in the interim I am compelled to decline receiving deposits. I expect to be ready in about one week — Mr Duvall has received his Comn as Coiner, the transfer will take place on Monday when our Coinage will be resumed —

Very respectfly Your Obt servant
R. M. McAlpin
Superintendent

From,

R. M. Mc Alpin, Supt
New Orleans

Rec'd 24 11 Jan. 1851

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Jany 19th 1852

Sir

I transmit herewith statement of the condition of this Mint for the week ending 17th Inst.

There are over Two Hundred returned Californians now in the Mint making deposits, they are mostly small ones,

Most respectfully
Your my obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G N Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt. at N. Orleans
Jany 19/57

Recd 30th.

U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans.
Melter & Refiner Office 9th Jan 1857.

Sir:

I require for the operations of the Melting & Refining Depart.t the following articles:

100 Black lead pots No 30 } Of the Ph.a
100 Do Do No 40 } Mint pattern
100 Do Do No 50 }
100 Black lead stirrers.
Covers for all the pots, and
Six dozen Matrasses or bottles for separating.

The pots of the "Phoenix Manufacturing Company" of Taunton, Mass, are of unexceptionable quality, & I prefer them to all others.

I think the separating matrasses might be obtained of good quality, from the "Phoenix glass Factory" of Boston, Mass. the last lot sent out by the Directors, were badly annealed & a great number of them cracked, when being heated. It might be that the Manufacturer at Phia might succeed better, if his attention were directed to this circumstance.

I would like to have the separating Matrasses, ~~or at least,~~ or, at least, a part of them, as soon as possible, for, although I have a sufficient number for the present, I must be under constant apprehensions of loosing them, on account of their bad quality.

Very Respectfully
Yr Ob. Serv.t —
Ignd. M. G. Benzano

1. What has been the cause of delays in experimenting on your process, agreeably to Instructions recd from the Dept & communicated to you?

2. ~~Have~~ [illegible] ~~have you~~ Have you delayed experimenting on Mr McCullon's process, & from what cause?

3. Is there any impediment in the way of determining the value of the processes in a short time?

4. When will you be able to give an opinion on the processes proposed?

Ch

R. M. McAlpin
Sup. B. M
New Orleans

16 Jan. 1851

Mint of the United States
16 Jan. 1851.

Sir,

I have received, this morning, your report of the defacement of dies, and of those remaining on hand for 1851. The list will be compared with ours at an early period.

The report for December & the assay coins reserved during the same month have also been received.

The mufflers requested by [illegible] will be ordered to day.

I enclose bill of lading for shipment of acid.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Robt. M. McAlpin, Esq.
New Orleans

Branch Mint of the U.S.
New Orleans Jany 23d 1851

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director Mint
Philadelphia

Sir

I have recd from the Treasurer and have the honor of transmitting to you, the annual statement of the Bullion account of the Coiner and Melter & Refiner for the Year 1850 — Showing the Amount claimed by them respectively for Wastage —

I will also forward by first good conveyance samples of the Sweep for the same year —

The Amt of Gold assayed and in Dust on hand is over $2.500.000 — The Melter & Refiner thinks with two more furnaces he could increase his work nearly one third. the Cost will be some $350 — I would like your opinion on the matter, The Coiner also wants a new Lathe for Dies &c Cost $300. Please let me hear from you at your earliest Convenience

Very respy
Your Most obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt —

From,

R M Mcalpin, Sup
new orleans

Rec'd Feb 2d.

23 Jany 51

February 1851

# Coiner's account of Bullion

| 1850 | | | | Ounces | dec. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| December | 31 | Gold Dr. | | 578.843 | 956 |
| | | " Cr. | | 577.416 | 360 |
| | | Balance | | 1.427 | 596 |
| | | Bullion weighed | oz 1.194.810 | | |
| | | In Sweep | " 93.340 | | |
| | | Wastage | " 139.446 | 1.427 | 596 |
| 1850 | | | | | |
| December | 31 | Silver Dr. | | 2.976.897 | 91 |
| | | " Cr. | | 2.969.679 | 69 |
| | | Balance | | 7.218 | 22 |
| | | Bullion weighed | oz 6.199.71 | | |
| | | In Sweep | " 627.60 | | |
| | | Wastage | " 390.91 | 7.218 | 22 |

# Melter & Refiner's account of Bullion

| 1850 | | | | Ounces | dec |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| December | 31 | Gold Dr. | | 664 008 | 282 |
| | | " Cr. | | 577.798 | 600 |
| | | Balance | | 86.209 | 682 |
| | | Bullion weighed | oz 85.765.964 | | |
| | | In Sweep | " 234.130 | | |
| | | Wastage | " 209.588 | 86209 | 682 |
| 1850 | | | | | |
| December | 31 | Silver Dr. | | 3.063915 | 15 |
| | | " Cr. | | 2.949.523 | 74 |
| | | Balance | | 114.391 | 41 |
| | | Bullion weighed | oz 106.300.82 | | |
| | | In Sweep | " 3.603.28 | | |
| | | Wastage | " 4.487.31 | 114391 | 41 |

Branch Mint of the U. States. N. Orleans
Treasurer's Office December 31st 1850
J. Wickes
Treasurer

ites was constantly on the rise; so that although the changes ~~indicated~~ were prosecuted with the greatest energy, we have not been able to avert the accumulation of the large uncoined balance to which I have referred.

I do not anticipate

Dr/

R. M. McAlpin, Esq

N. Orleans

28 Jany 1851.

Mint of the United States
28 Jany 1851.

Sir,

I enclose some bills of lading for acids shipped to your Mint.

The articles requested by D. Bonzano have been ordered; the pots from Taunton, the matrasses from Boston.

Very resp'y &c
R. M. Patterson,
Director

Robt. M. McAlpin, Esq.
Supt. Branch Mint,
New Orleans.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Feby 6th 1851

Dr R M Patterson
Director

Sir

I enclose you herewith a statement of the Deposits and Coinage of this Mint during the Month of January also a memorandum of the Assay Coins reserved during the same period—

By tomorrows mail I will transmit the Coins— I have to acknowledge yours of 28th Jany enclosing three Btls of Acid—

Dr Hort has requested me to order from Paris 12.000 Cupels for Gold Assays. he says they are far Superior to the American and cost no more

Very respectfully
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supt

From,

R. M. McAlpin
New Orleans

Recd. 18 Feb. 6/51

U.S. Branch Mint New Orleans
February 13th 1851

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Sir

In writing to the Secty of Treasury 23d last Month for the balance of appropriation due for the use of this Mint, I stated that we had on hand in Gold Bullion and dust over $2.500000, and the receipts being so heavy since it is but very little diminished. I received in reply orders to use every exertion and employ all the force on Double Eagles, "We have no Silver to Coin" The work in the Melting department could not be increased without employing more Men, I have therefore increased the force to Eighteen, an increase of Four. I find that during part of last year the number was Nineteen when not one half the Coinage was done that we will now be able to perform. I consulted with the Officers, and trust it will meet your approbation —

I would remark that we have recd $480.000 as askd for and have now the use of

$1.100.000 the maximum allotted to this Mint we wanted it much and it will be a great relief to our Com$^{l}$ Community —

All the departments are in full and active opperation —

I find that for a long time past we have been paying 55 to 1$^{25}$ per Barrel for Coal, and having room in the Yard I have this day purchased 3.000 Bls at 43¢ per Bbl delivered and stacked in the Yard — Our annual consumption is over 6.000 Bls —

I respectfully call your attention to the enclosed Letter from the Coiner

Very respy
Your Obt Servt
R. W. McAlpin
Supdt

From,

R. M. McAlpin, Sr

New Orleans

Recd. 24 13 Feb. 1851

United States Branch Mint.
New Orleans Feby 7th 1851

R. M. McAlpin, Esqr. Superintendent,

I beg leave respectfully to call your attention to the following:

**Wanted**: For the U.S. Branch Mint at this place.

1st 3 Cylinder Boilers, with wrought iron heads: Each boiler 40 feet long, with a diameter of 30 to 32 inches, also a flue of Equal length with the boilers, and all necessary apparatus to set them up –

2. A geared lathe, about 8 or 9 feet long, Similar to that now owned by Dr. Bonzano to be used for Cutting Screws, of various threads and numbers, and for finishing up, our dies

3. A Small Steam Engine, to be used in working the Coining presses.

The two boilers now in use, I find have become very thin, and of course not very safe. In order to render our present Engine Efficient, we must raise the Steam to about 80 lbs pressure per square inch of surface in the boiler. This would not be too high if the boilers were new, or uninjured, but as they are not in that Condition, we are Compelled to watch with great care, to avoid Explosion.

I understand that a new plan for Setting up boilers, has been, Submitted to the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia, who has signified his approval thereof. It is, to have immediately under the three boilers, a flue of Equal length, upon an inclination of about 15 degrees, which is to act as a heater, and at the same time receive and retain all the deposite of sand from the Hydrant water– This is peculiarly advantageous in this city, where we must of necessity use the Mississippi water. The injury done to the boilers, now in use here, has been occasioned mainly, by the rapid accumulation of Sandy deposite from the Water used. This deposite is precipitated, and settles on the lower-inside Surface of the boiler, where it soon becomes a solid mass, adhering so closely to it, that when this scale or incrustation is removed, considerable portions of the boiler, are taken off with it. The operation of removing this sandy deposite is requisite once in Each week.

It is desirable, and I consider it very necessary to have a small Engine, to run the Coining Presses. The present main Engine is not of sufficient capacity, to perform all the work required of it. It is of daily occurrence, that when we are using the "break down" rollers, the Coining process is at the same time, going on; in this event, the motion of the Engine becomes very irregular, which interferes materially with the Coining process, as this operation requires great regularity of movement, and absence from all tremor and jarring. In case of breaking of any portion of the Main Engine, the smaller one could be used advantageously in repairing the damage, within the mint building, and by our own machinists, instead of sending the broken parts to the foundry, upon the mercy of whose proprietors we would have to depend, whilst our own mechanics would have to remain idle.

We have immediate and pressing need of a lathe such as is required above. Our dies require to be fitted up with great accuracy, and very often with despatch: Screws of various dimensions, and of different threads and numbers, are continually required. For these purposes we now use a very old and inferior Foot-lathe, requiring the services of two men, and subjecting them to very hard labor, besides occasioning great loss of time.

The business of this mint, is increasing rapidly, and it seems to me that the facilities for carrying out the object of its institution, should increase in a corresponding ratio.

Much labor, and large results are expected from us this year. In order to realise those anticipations, we must be provided with good and efficient means, I therefore solicit your immediate consideration, and approval of my requisitions

Very respectfully
A. Devall
Coiner

Probable Cost.

| | |
|---|---|
| Boilers & fixtures &c. . . . . . . | $ 2.500 |
| Engine . . . . . . . . . | .600 |
| Lathe . . . . . . . | .300 |
| | $ 3.400 |

True and reasonable in the facts and inferences.
R.P. Feby 51.

Mint of the United States,
21 Feb. 1851.

Dear Sir,

I take the liberty of enclosing for your perusal two newspaper slips, and a manuscript commentary, which have been sent to my Father (Dr. Patterson) anonymously, from which you will perceive that the insulting remarks of Mr. Briggs are finding an echo in respectable organs of public opinion. Your letter of the 7th inst

To

R. M. McAlpin, Esq
New Orleans

18 Feb. 1851.

Mint of the United States
19 Feb. 1851.

Sir,

I regret to find that by an oversight due to great press of business your favor of the 23rd Jany has been overlooked. Upon the necessity of a new furnace & new lathe for dies I should be entirely guided by the opinion of the M. & R. & Coiner, and if necessary to their operations they should be procured. Am I to understand that any assistance was to be furnished by me in procuring the materials or articles.

Your report for Jany & the assay coins have been received. I notice that Dr. Hort prefers the Paris cupels, and his judgment is, of course, conclusive as to the propriety of the order which you have made relative to their purchase.

The result of the annual assay, as to your coins, showed $\frac{2}{1000}$ more than the standard weight in the gold & $\frac{7}{1000}$ less in the silver. The gold coins were 899.6 fine; the silver 899.1

I enclose several bills of lading for articles shipped to you.

If you are very much pressed in refining the Cala. gold, you might authorise Dr. Bonzano to leave the full amount of silver alloy in his ingots, charging the depositor accordingly. In this case it will only be necessary to part about 670 ounces in a thousand,

Director

the remainder going directly into the ingots or toughened bars. He will of course be charged with the silver in gold not parted for depositors (as not netting $5), being credited for the amount of silver alloy. We have been forced to take the full limit of the law ourselves, for a short time, but will soon return to the former practice, being in a much more satisfactory condition. If your prospects of reducing your debt are favorable, you will of course not make any change.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

R. M. McAlpin, Esq.
Supt. &c.
New Orleans.

S/

R. M. McAlpin, Esq
New Orleans

24 Feb. 1857.

Mint of the United States
24 Feb. 1851.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your communication of the 10th in which you refer to the increase of workmen in the refining department, and enclose a memorandum from Mr. Devall of the changes requisite in the coining department.

While it is proper that all due economy should be exercised to bring the expenses of your Mint to the lowest possible point, you must of course consider that the great object to be secured is to coin, with promptness, the bullion deposited with you. Whatever increase in your operative force or machinery is necessary to that end I presume will be approved by the government, as it certainly is by myself.

In regard to the number of men in the Melting & Refiners departments (18) I see no ground of objection, altho it is proper to mention that we have here but 22. The new boilers & engine suggested as necessary by the Coiner have been required in our own operations, and their introduction, as also that of a lathe, is perfectly reasonable.

Very respectfully
Your faithful Servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

R. M. McAlpin, Esq. Supt.
New Orleans.

P.S. I should be glad to learn what is the average delay in your payments, now, from the receipt of a good deposite.

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, Feb. 27. 1851.

Sir,

My attention has been called to a letter addressed to my predecessor, by the Comptroller of the Treasury, bearing date November 12th 1850, enclosing the copy of a letter from you to the Secretary of the Treasury, dated Oct. 22. 1850, in which you recommend certain changes in the mode of rendering the quarterly accounts of the Treasurer of the Mint. - The proposed changes having been approved by the Department, the Comptroller, in his letter, has given instructions to keep and present for settlement, the accounts of this Branch Mint, in accordance therewith. -

In order to carry into effect, the change in our books and accounts, I shall require the forms now in use at your Mint, and will therefore thank you for the following, and any others you may think will be useful, viz: The "Assayers Reports," "Record of calculations," and headings of the Registers for gold & silver bullion. - Also, that the clerks may understand perfectly, the mode of keeping & rendering the accounts, under the new plan, I would be obliged to you for extracts of entries in the Bullion Journal, and of the accounts of gold & silver bullion purchased for coinage, and of gold & silver coinage. — As it is desirable the change in our accounts, be carried into effect the approaching quarter, it is important to receive the forms of Reports &c. with as little delay as possible, with the view to have the blanks & books printed by the end of next month. The extracts however, will not be required for some time to come. —

In conclusion, I will thank you for any other information, that you think will facilitate us in the adoption of the new plan.

I am Sir,
with much respect,
Your Obt. Servt.
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

I should like to be informed in regard to the following: In the payment of a deposite of Cal.a gold, is the aggregate amount of the gold and the silver extracted therefrom, paid in gold coins, or are the amounts paid separately in gold & silver coins, & consequently credited the respective accounts? What use is made by the Clerks of the three columns marked with a star (form B.)? Is this form kept on a loose sheet of paper, or is the record kept in a book.?

R. M. Patterson, Esq.
Director Mint of the U. States
Philadelphia

From,

Wm de Buys, Treas.

New Orleans

Recd Mar. 7   27 Feb. 1851

March 1851

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans March 3d 1851

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director. Phila

Sir

I enclose herewith my official Bond, which I will thank you "if approved" to transmit to the Department at your convenience — I forwarded on the 25th ulto per Harnden's Express one Box containing samples of Sweeps — We have about Sixty Bbls Gold & Silver Sweeps which I will ship to "London" per first Vessel —

Our Coinage for Feby was over $1.000.000 will write you particulars, also forward the Assay Coins in a few days —

It is the opinion of the Officers that we will Coin very near if not quite $2.000.000 this month — We will not require your assistance in procuring Lathes &c — I would like very much to have diffinite instructions about the Boilers, those now in use are very thin —

Very respy
Yr faithful Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supt

From,

R. M. McAlpin

New Orleans

Recd 13 3 Mar 1851.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Mch 5th 1857

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of 24th Ulto— I also have the pleasure of transmitting to you the "Annual Statement of the deposits and coinage, and of Coins reserved for annual assay" according to Law at the Branch Mint of the U. S. at New Orleans for the Year 1856.

Also a Statement of the deposits and coinage for February and a list of the Coins reserved for assaying during the same period,

Amount of Gold on hand in Standard

1st Half Oz 172.389.695
Silver 160.605.95

Our deposits are growing smaller, and I am satisfied we will be enabled to pay for all deposits now being made in Forty Five days. at the expiration of which time we will have but little Bullion to Coin and of course the time will be greatly reduced—

I send by this days mail the assay coins for February —

Very respectfully
Your Faithful Servant

R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

From,

Supt at New Orleans

Recd 15th

5 Mar. 57

# Statement of the coins reserved at the Branch Mint, New Orleans, during the year 1850, for the annual assay.

|  | Double Eagles | Eagles | Half Eagles | Quarter Eagles | Gold Doll: | Silver Doll: | Half Dolls | Quarter dolls | Dimes | Half Dimes | Value | dolls | cts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|  | pieces | pieces | pieces | pieces | pieces | pieces | pieces | pieces | pieces | pieces |  |  |  |
| January |  | 10 |  |  |  |  | 29 |  |  |  |  | 114 | 50 |
| February |  | 20 |  |  |  |  | 12 |  | 6 | 28 |  | 208 | 00 |
| March |  | 16 |  |  |  |  | 70 |  |  |  |  | 195 | 00 |
| April |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| May |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| June | 35 | 12 |  |  |  |  | 77 |  | 14 |  |  | 859 | 90 |
| July | 15 |  |  | 8 |  | 7 | 11 | 37 | 22 |  |  | 343 | 95 |
| August | 3 |  |  | 30 |  | 1 | 48 | 9 | 46 |  |  | 166 | 85 |
| September | 14 |  |  | 40 |  |  | 35 | 18 |  | 44 |  | 404 | 20 |
| October | 31 |  |  | 4 |  |  | 97 |  | 28 |  |  | 699 | 90 |
| November | 28 |  |  |  |  |  | 78 |  |  |  |  | 599 | 00 |
| December | 16 |  |  | 2 | 14 |  | 33 | 20 | 14 | 38 |  | 363 | 80 |
|  | 142 | 58 | „ | 84 | 14 | 8 | 490 | 84 | 102 | 138 |  | 3935 | 10 |

Branch Mint of the U States
Treasurer's Office, December 31st 1850

J. Wilkes
Treasurer.

# Statement of the Deposites and Coinage at the Branch Mint, New Orleans, in the year 1850

## Deposites

| | Gold | | | | | | Silver | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | U.S. Coins old standard | Foreign Coins | United States California | Bullion other sources | Foreign Bullion | Total Am.t | Foreign Coins | Foreign Bullion | United States Bullion | Total Am.t | Total Gold & Silver |
| January | 17.896 | 888.184 | 20,237.578 | 198.956 | 64.392 | 398 268 76 | 56.954.07 | 8.219.15 | | 75 837 93 | 474 106 69 |
| February | | 459.546 | 30.182.658 | | 4.704 | 570 175 03 | 88.904.08 | 1.002.79 | 3.603.03 | 108 811 52 | 678 986 55 |
| March | | 702.509 | 19.657.298 | 17.563 | 69.838 | 380 413 17 | 267.952.17 | 10.809.74 | 2.240.56 | 326 984 69 | 707 397 86 |
| April | | | | | | | | | | | |
| May | | | 11.709.071 | | | 217 843 18 | | | 1.428.41 | 1 662 15 | 219 505 33 |
| June | 15.529 | 479.882 | 21.318.331 | 15.641 | 55.108 | 407 153 30 | 7.030.08 | 10.465.57 | 8.687.39 | 30 467 47 | 437 620 77 |
| July | | 229.885 | 121.475.825 | | | 236 385 30 | 60.022.41 | 4.902.91 | 1.263.11 | 77 019 26 | 313 404 56 |
| August | | 112.273 | 8.915.117 | | 18.304 | 168 291 98 | 93.469.40 | 16.547.19 | 939.43 | 129 112 46 | 297 404 44 |
| September | | 42.597 | 9.623.727 | 7.373 | | 179 975 76 | 126.194.77 | 478.13 | 1.014.20 | 148 581 36 | 328 557 12 |
| October | | 55.366 | 23.921.988 | | 221.336 | 446 505 86 | 157.260.49 | 1.865.76 | 2.755.81 | 188 371 85 | 634 877 71 |
| November | | 272.369 | 50.382.288 | | | 942 412 22 | 172.977.91 | 3.772.86 | 5.253.83 | 211 787 17 | 1 154 199 39 |
| December | | 90.413 | 37.572.757 | | 15.927 | 699 890 18 | 1.355.47 | 228.28 | 4.240.90 | 6 777 77 | 706 667 95 |
| | 33.425 | 3.333.024 | 245,936.578 | 239.532 | 250.609 | 4 647 314 74 | 1.032.120.85 | 58,292.32 | 31.421.67 | 1,305,413.63 | 5 952 728 37 |

# Coinage

| | Gold | | | | | Silver | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Double Eagles Pieces | Eagles Pieces | Quarter Eagles Pieces | Dollars Pieces | Value | Dollars Pieces | Half Dollars Pieces | Quarter Dollars Pieces | Dimes Pieces | Half Dimes Pieces | Value | Number of Pieces | Total Value |
| January | | 10.000 | | | 100.000.00 | | 144.000 | | | | 72.000.00 | 154.000 | 172.000.00 |
| February | | 20.000 | | | 200.000. " | | 60.000 | | 30.000. | 140.000 | 40.000. " | 250.000 | 240.000. " |
| March | | 16.000 | | | 160.000. " | | 348.000 | | | | 174.000. " | 364.000 | 334.000. " |
| April | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| May | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| June | 34.500 | 11.500 | | | 805.000. " | | 386.000 | | 70.000 | | 200.000. . | 502.000 | 1.005.000. " |
| July | 15.000 | | 8.000. | | 320.000. " | 37.000 | 56.000 | 176.000 | 110.000 | | 120.000. " | 402.000 | 440.000. " |
| August | 2.750 | | 30.000. | | 130.000. " | 3.000 | 244.000 | 48.000 | 230.000 | | 160.000. " | 557.750 | 290.000. " |
| September | 13.750 | | 40.000. | | 375.000. " | | 174.000 | 88.000 | | 220.000 | 120.000. " | 535.750 | 495.000. " |
| October | 31.500 | | 4.000 | | 644.000. " | | 486.000 | | | 140.000 | 250.000. " | 661.500 | 890.000. " |
| November | 27.750 | | | | 555.000. " | | 392.000 | | | | 196.000. " | 419.750 | 751.000. " |
| December | 15.750 | | 2.000 | 14.000 | 334.000. " | | 166.000 | 100.000 | 70.000 | 190.000 | 124.500. " | 557.750 | 458.500. " |
| | 141.000. | 57.500 | 84.000 | 14.000 | 3.619.000.00 | 40.000 | 2456.000 | 412.000 | 510.000 | 690.000 | 1.456.500.00 | 4.404.500 | 5.075.500.00 |

Branch Mint of the U. States
New Orleans December 31st 1850.

J. Wiltz
Treasurer

Annual Statement of the
Deposits & Coinage, and
Coins reserved for annual
assay at the Branch Mint
New Orleans.

31st December 1850.

Mint of the United States
10 Mar: 1851.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your communication of the 24th ulto requesting me to transmit the forms, and other information, requisite to enable you to comply with certain instructions from the department relative to the presentation of your accounts.

As you have in your possession my letter to the Secretary stating the reasons for the changes in our forms which you are instructed to adopt, you can well understand that these changes, though productive of great convenience to ourselves might not prove so important to you. If I have been rightly informed the calculations of deposites are made, at your Mint, in the Assayers office, the Treasurer afterwards having them verified. With us, the Assayer only reports the fineness & date for delivery the calculations based thereupon being made in the Treasurer's office. The latter mode certainly appears to me more conformable both to the words and spirit of the law. Whoever has the work in charge would naturally keep a methodical account of the results. If the operation is performed in the Treasurers office there would be an obvious convenience in so framing and extending that record as to make it serve the purpose of an abstract of deposites. If done by the Assayer, however, it could not be expected that he should assume any trouble having in view a facilitation of the Treasurers work. In view, therefore, of such considerations, I suggested to the

Comptroller of the Treasy. on the 7th Nov. last, that the Branch Mints should be permitted to use the forms to which they had been accustomed, at all events till some inconvenience was experienced in the auditing department which called for a change. In a reply, dated 11 Nov., from the acting comptroller Mr. Seaman, he authorised me to omit giving any instructions for the present. I infer, therefore, that the instructions from the Comptroller hurriedly, [illegible] the next day (the 12th) were issued by some mistake, and that if, upon an examination of the forms which I now send, you should not find them, for your purposes, more convenient than those now adopted by you, the Comptroller would withdraw the instructions refered to.

With these preliminary remarks I will refer briefly to the forms now enclosed

No. 1 is the Assayers Report. We have three kinds, one for bullion not California, another for Cal. bullion not parted, for depositors a third for the same bullion parted, for depositors on which the parting charges are printed. The number, date, name & gross weight are filled up ~~by~~ in the Treasr's office. The Assayer fills in the fineness (both in gold & silver if the metal is intended to be parted for the benefit of the depositor), and signs the report.

The calculations based on the gross weight of deposits are recorded in Form 3. The particular details of the form will be understood from an examination. You will perceive that we always add in the value of the parted metal to the principal metal, subtract the deductions, and what remains of the net value to be paid to the depositor. Some other particulars should also be noted. One is that our assay numbers and receipt numbers do not necessarily agree. The assay numbers run on in regular order from the beginning of the year, and the receipt numbers also; but of course at the first deposits which contains several items requiring several assays the numbers will diverge). The columns in blank are work of the clerk now having charge of the calculations in a manner which neither I myself, nor any one else but himself, understands. He states that his operations are greatly facilitated thereby, and that he is enabled to carry on his calculations on the sheet itself, instead of on a detached paper. While this is undoubtedly true, I have some suspicions that his system would not be so available to another as it is to himself.

The form C is our warrant for payment of deposits, in two blanks for payments below and above a thousand dollars. & of course it covers the whole value of any deposit, whether a part of that value be made up of metal parted or not. I may remark that our warrants always run in the name of the original depositor, or order. When your accounts were sent to me for examination for a special purpose, about a year since, I noticed that your warrants were for payment to the endorser or presenter of the receipt. The latter method appears to me irregular, and it has the additional disadvantage that the warrants cannot, so far as I can see, be prepared in advance. We settle argentiferous gold deposits in gold, & vice versa.

The form D is that of the Register of Deposits. It of course embraces metal parted as well as the principal bullion deposited. I may mention that the memorandum [illegible] of a deposite should, in like manner, be single, embracing both metals. I send a form such as we use here, marked B. This memorandum serves as a Mint Certificate, but does not bear any value in itself, since we always pay upon the presentation of the original receipt, and that only. When we are paying promptly on assay (as we are now do[illegible] ing) it seems so useless to issue the old form of certificate, [illegible] it is to be paid at once. Under the circumstances in which you are placed, since your certificates must be at some [illegible] outstanding, and be discounted & otherwise negotiated, the old form of certificate had better be preserved.

You ask for extracts from our book entries to [illegible] you to understand our system more completely. Perhaps it will be sufficient if I indicate the several debits and [illegible] which might arise from the transactions entered on the form B.

1. The standard gold will of course be delivered [illegible] Melter & Refiner. The entry is M. & R. his a/c of Gold [illegible] Gold Bullion deposited for coinage.

2. The standard silver reported for the benefit of the [illegible] tor (as netting $5) is charged to the M. & R. coincident[illegible] the gold in which the silver is contained. The entry [illegible] R. his a/c of Silver Dr. To Silver Bullion depd for Coinage.

3. There may be deposites of gold known to contain [illegible] but which was not reported for the benefit of the depo[illegible]

It is of course proper that the Melter & Refiner should be charged with it, and the amount, when parted, accrues to the benefit of the Mint. If the argentiferous gold were of irregular fineness and small amount the Assayer would have to give a memorandum of the fineness, in silver, of each mixed deposite not specially reported. Considering the preponderating amount of the bullion in question we receive from Cal^a, we do not, here, nor need you, have a special assay. It will be sufficient to ascertain the aggregate ~~amount~~ weight of the argentiferous gold not reported for the depositors, and assume an average fineness (say [illegible]). The entries will be M. & R. his a/c of Silver Dr. to G. B. dep^d for Coinage, and S. B. dep^d for Coinage Dr. to Profit & Loss.

[illegible] Since the M. & R. is charged for every portion of silver which goes into his hands, he is entitled to a credit for silver used as alloy in ingots of gold. The amount so used, as to particular deposites reported for depositor, will be found duly set forth in the Special column form B. But there must be [illegible] it the silver requisite for alloying the gold deposited [illegible] for the benefit of the Mint. The total amount will be entered as Prof. & Loss Dr. to M. & R. his a/c of Silver ~~Silver Bullion deposited for Coinage~~.

[illegible] The deductions are Gold ([illegible]) Bullion dep^d for Coinage [illegible] To Profit & Loss

[illegible] Payments are entered as A. B. or Sundry Accounts Dr. [illegible] Coinage.

[illegible] these explanations I may add that for any excess which may appear in the account of gold or silver coinage (owing to deposites paid of either metal having encroached upon the coins of the opposite metal) are settled by charging the one account & crediting the other.

The form B. is kept, in the first instance, on loose sheets, which are, at the close of the quarter sent to the binders, and lightly bound together, being sent to the department at the Abstract of Deposites. The calculations are entered in copying ink & the entries copied by the press & kept in the [illegible]

If you should conclude to adopt our system such as I have endeavoured to explain it, I think the forms might [illegible]ly be improved and simplified. The columns in form B. would run best in the following order, viz. Assay no., gross weight, fineness of gold, fineness of silver parted, standard weight of gold, its value, standard weight of silver, its value, deductions, net value, date of deposite, number of receipt, [illegible]. The warrants being made from the ~~number of the [illegible]~~ form B or its press copy, it is convenient to have the receipt (which is the warrant) number, opposite the net value & the name. I suggest [illegible] you have but 25 assay numbers or 30 on the page [illegible] have 50 because our daily deposites & calculations [illegible] that. Your page should contain your average day[illegible] calculations, as the press copy should be made from [illegible] day to be successful. — The Register, it appears [illegible] would be sufficiently full if it had the following [illegible] viz. Receipt no., Assay no., name, description, weight, f[illegible] gold, fineness of silver, subjects of deduction, net [illegible] when paid. From the weight, fineness, and de[illegible] deductions, it is easy to deduce the particulars making up the net value at any future time, and there is no indispensable necessity to spread them out at length in the Register. It is very convenient to have each page of the Register with the same number of lines as form B. The footings will of course, in that case be confirmed by direct comparison, page by page.

It is perhaps hardly necessary to add that we adopt forms in relation to silver deposites identical with those for gold, except that, receiving but few deposites, we take in pen instead of press copies of form B, or rather keep the original & send a copy (as an abstract) to the department; the Assayer's Reports, warrants &c are (mutatis mutandis) the same.

I shall be happy to give any further explanations on the points which you may, after my letter has been perused, still find obscure.

It is necessary that I should be replenished in funds for the assay office. Your balance is only [illegible] $800. The proceeds of the assay fund were more than exhausted by the payment of over $1000 for acid. There is still due $27.80 on the same account.

I should be glad to learn whether your parting charges are found adequate to the expenses you incur therefor.

Very respectfully & faithfully yours

[illegible] Boyd, Esq
Treasr &c

To/

Wm. de Buys,
Treasr. &c.
New Orleans

11 Mar. 1857.

Mint of the United States
18 Mar. 1851.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your letters of the 3d & 6th instants, and the bond, report, & assay coins accompanying them.

Your bond, and also that of Mr. Devall, have been transmitted to the Department with my approval.

The box of sweeps remitted by you has been received. It will be retained for assay at some future time, or to correct any discrepancy which may be exhibited in the returns from the sweep smelters. I may mention that we have found it to our advantage to entrust the sale of our sweeps, on commission, to Dr. Jos. W. Farnum, former assayer at Dahlonega, & who is now in Europe. Should you desire to avail yourselves of his agency, his address is to the care of Baring, Bros. & Co. London. He will be in Europe for some time to come.

You have called my attention to the necessity for some definite instructions as to new boilers. Considering the worn condition of the boilers now in use by you, — as stated in a letter from Dr. Bonzano of Dec. 1st 1850, from Mr. Brooks of the 31st Dec., & from Mr. Devall of the 7th ult., I cheerfully give every sanction which is necessary, on my part, for the introduction of new boilers. On the 14th of Dec. last I sent to Dr. Bonzano a memorandum from Mr. Peale which was expressive of my views as to engine setting, a position of such boiler. I refer you to the letter, which I presume Dr Bonzano can furnish. Let me particularly press upon you the importance of setting the boiler outside of the building. A letter from Mr. [illegible] suggested some obstacles to that course, but I trust they may be overcome.

I will thank you to mention to Mr. DeBuys an error which crept into my letter to him of the 10th. Silver used for alloy is journalized under the letter S Profit & loss Dr. to M. & R. his a/c of Silver, and not as I mentioned. The error was too palpable to need notice, perhaps.

The prospects of a larger coinage & diminished delay in your payments, are very satisfactory to me. We have, ourselves, become able to resume prompt payments. The deposites of the last arrival are paid as fast as they can be assayed & calculated.

very respectfully,
Your obdt. Servt.
R. M. Patterson,
Director

Robt. M. McAlpin, Esq.
Supt. Branch Mint.

P.S. The department has been addressed by me on the subject of the proposed 3 cent piece, the coinage of which, as it will yield a large profit to government, I have suggested should be put upon a special footing the suggestions have been approved, & instructions in conformity therewith will shortly be issued. In the mean time the Secy requires that preparations be made for the carriage. The moulds for your service we shall prepare here; your mill will have to be altered to suit the proposed diameter of the piece, which is $\frac{11}{20}$ths of an inch..

To/

Supt at N. Orleans

18 Mar. 1857.

U. S. Branch Mint

New Orleans March 19th 1851

Dr R. M. Patterson

Director

Philadelphia

Sir

I am requested by Dr Bringans to order through you Two Dozen India Rubber Gloves for the use of the Men —

We ordered some Three months since a quantity of Pots from "Taunton" Mass. They have not arrived and I Telegraphed yesterday to you for 100 Pots Ea No 40 + 50.

I find we will be short of Acid and you will greatly oblige us by shipping 100. Carboys more than our requisition —

I have also to request you to send the Treasurer $100. in Cents. we are entirely out —

Every thing is working well, and I trust my sixth monthly report will prove satisfactory

Very respectfully Yr faithful
Servant

R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Gent. I have had the
honor to receive your letter

From,

R. M. McAlpin, Sup.

New Orleans

Recd. 28

19 Mar. 1851

New York, Philadelphia & New Orleans Telegraph,
**DIRECT.**
Office, 97 Chestnut Street, above Third, North Side,
**PHILADELPHIA.**

*The following communication has been received:*

Dated, New Orleans Mar 17 1851

R. M. Patterson Esqr

Dr Bonzano wishes to send ten pots each 40 & 50 if possible by Steamer

N Orleans Branch Mint

Treas,
N. O. Branch Mint

Recd. 21 17 Mar. 51

Philadelphia, Mch 25th 1851 ~~18~~

U.S. Mint
New Orleans La

Bought of **JOHN M. MARIS & Co.**

No. 9
South 3d. St.

**WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS**

7 doors
below Market

TERMS { All Deductions or claims for Allowance of any kind (except errors in calculations) must be made within eight days of receipt of Goods otherwise they will not be allowed in the settlement

J. Sinclair's Lith. Phila.

Duplicate

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Cask & packing | 1 | 00 |
| 10 Blk Lead Crucibles No. 50 = 500 nos 3½ | 17 | 50 |
| 1 Extra Box & packing | | 75 |
| Portge | | 25 |
| | $19 | 50 |

Recd payment in full
Jno M Maris & Co
pr J. E. Brown

Received, 31 Mar. 1851, of the Director of the Mint, One hundred dollars, in full for a keg of cents of that value shipped to the Branch Mint, New Orleans.

Geo. F. Dunning
for the Treas. Mint.

$100.

Duplicate

Mint of the United States
29 Mar. 1851.

Sir,

Your telegraphic despatch and also your letter of the 19th were duly received.

The pots requested by D. Bringans & were sent to Newyork, to be shipped by the Ohio steamer. You will have received them, I hope, before this reaches you. The pots No. 50 were furnished by Morris & Co. the 40s were from our Mint stock. We have about 30 more of them left. If you wish they can be sent to you.

The acids, glues, & cents have been ordered. You will find enclosed bills of lading for acids already shipp'd.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson
Director,
per R. P.

R. M. McAlpin, Esq.
Supt Br. Mt.
N. Orleans.

Philada March 28- 1851

Branch Mint Charlotte

Bot N Lennig & Co.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 Carboy Pure Nitric Acid | 1.50 |
| 90 ″ @ 13 ¢ | 11.70 |
| | $13.20 |

Sd

R. M. McAlpin, Sup

New Orleans

29 Mar. 51

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans April 4th 1851

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director

Sir

I have the honor of enclosing you herewith a statement of the deposits and coinage of this Mint during "March" also a memorandum of the assay Coins reserved during the same Month— The Coins will be forwarded by this days Mail—

It is with great pleasure I state that the Officers of the Mint have fully complyed with their promise viz a coinage of 2.000.000 it would have been more but we are short of Acid, The pressure on the Mint being greatly relieved, we are now making Gold Dolls say 100.000 and will next week make small Silver Coins. There being no sale for Empty Carboys, and having come too greatly in our way: I intend if the freight is low to ship them to Phila. 25¢ is the highest price I can get for them—

Very respy Your faithful Servt

R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

From,

Sup. Bell

New Orleans

ap. 4

Recd. Ap. 14

April 1851

My dear Sir

Last summer, ~~a~~ gentleman, who seemed to be authorized to speak upon the subject, mentioned to me that it was intended to make a change in the mint in New Orleans, and he stated that, by a letter from Washington, he had been questioned whether I was a suitable person for the office of Superintendent and whether the appointment would be a popular one.

The character of his reply he stated to me.

Soon after I was spoken to by several persons who appeared to know something of what I have mentioned.

I should hesitate to seek to displace any one in office and I have said and done nothing.

It is now supposed, as I understand, that a removal will take place.

I have not made an application, nor even written to Mr Meredith, being unwilling and thinking it unnecessary from what I have just said, to press him. I am very desirous to have the appointment, and this, my only letter respecting it, I presume to address to an old friend.

I am very truly.

Edward Rawle.

From,

Ed. Rawle

(postmarked)

New Orleans

Recd. 22 13 Ap. 1851

Various experiments have been tried here with a view to ~~the~~ ascertain the best methods of rolling & cleaning for the three-cent coin, with the least ~~or~~ amount of waste, or improvement in fineness. The following course has been found most successful.

Ingots are made of the usual length, but ~~much thinner~~ only a quarter of an inch thick. (~~Twelve sets~~ ~~A set is now making, for 24 ingots~~

(Twelve sets, for 24 ingots, are now making for the Br. Mint, & will be shipped in about two weeks. They can meantime use the kinds they have, or it may be that upon trial they will not prefer the new pattern. They are sent without order, however, to prevent loss of time.)

The ingots are not ~~cast out~~ taken out of the moulds till somewhat cooled; by which ~~means~~ course they come out without oxidation. The black ~~ends~~ tops are cut off.

They are rolled down to about 30 inches in length.

Then annealed in a close luted cast iron box; allowed to cool there; & come out clean.

Then rolled down, ready for drawing; cut in four pieces.

Then annealed as before; coming out clean & bright.

Then drawn and cut.

Then the planchets are washed in boiling potash water, strong.

Then lightly milled.

Then washed as above.

Then annealed in close box as above; care being always taken not to exceed a dull red heat; taken out when cooled down to a "flat-iron" temperature.

Then pickled in an acid which barely tastes sour.

Then put in a dish with warm water & sawdust, and rubbed with the hands.

Then dried in sawdust, as usual.

They are then ready for striking.

The dies will be ready in a day or two.
Specimen coins sent herewith.

Fr/ R. M. McAlpine Sup

N. Orleans

22 Ap. 57

Mint of the United States
Philada 22 April 1851.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your satisfactory report for March, and the package of Assay Coins received during the same time.

Enclosed are bills of lading for acid sent to you. On one of the shipments, which was for a very heavy amount, I thought it prudent to order an insurance. The black lead pots which you mention had not arrived, were shipped some time since. I presume you have received them ere this. The delays incident to the furnishing of materials from this section of the Country to so distant a point as New Orleans, indicate the propriety of giving me information at a very advanced date of the articles of which you anticipate the want.

I have already indicated that your Branch will be expected to Coin the three-cent pieces. The dies for that purpose will be sent in a day or two, and also about 12 sets of moulds. The latter will be sent, without order, as I know not what pattern you might prefer, and do not wish any delay to arise from a want of so essential an article.

In consequence of the great proportion of Copper in the new Coin, a tendency to undue oxidation & carbonization is observed, which it essential to obviate as far as possible. Various experiments have been tried by us with a view to ascertain the best methods of rolling & cleaning with a view to this end, and to effect the least waste or improvement in fineness. The following course has been found most successful.

The ingots are made of the usual length, but only a quarter of an inch thick. They are not taken out of the moulds till somewhat cooled, by which course they are left without oxidation. The black tops are cut off. They are rolled down to about 30 inches in ~~diameter~~ length, then annealed in a close luted cast iron box, allowed to cool there, and come out clean. They are then rolled down ready for drawing & cut in four pieces; then annealed, as before, coming out clean & bright; then drawn & cut. The planchets are washed in boiling potash water, strong; then lightly milled, ~~then~~ and washed as above. They are then annealed in a close box as already described, care being always taken not to exceed a dull red heat. When cooled down to a "flat iron" temperature they are taken out, pickled in an acid barely sour, put in a dish with warm water & saw dust, & rubbed with the hands, and dried in the saw dust as usual. They are then ready for striking.

You are aware that the weight & fineness of the new coin are so adjusted as give it a nominal value much above its real worth. Under these circumstances inasmuch as deposits of bullion payable in that piece will not be made, had great extent by private depositors, now that silver has risen to a premium, I suggested to the Department that the business of procuring bullion for this coinage should be assumed by the government. I have accordingly received authority to use such portion of the silver bullion in the Mint as can be spared, after deducting what may be required to meet ordinary deposites & for parting purposes. ~~If~~ When that resource is exhausted, should the demand for the coin continue purchases will be made, at such premiums as may be requisite, for of the bullion necessary.

At this Mint we find that we have an available surplus of about $100,000 in silver, which may be converted into the new coin. Considering the silver which accumulates from partible deposites, I assume that you must also have an available surplus of a considerable amount, applicable to the same object. I have, then, to request you will, with all possible despatch, consistent with the ordinary business of the Mint, proceed with your preparations for the coinage to the extent which is in your power. You may use such moulds as you have, rather than be delayed by the non-receipt of those to be sent from here. You will please also send me an estimate of the amount which you can furnish from the bullion in the Mint, independent of purchases.

So far as these coins are disposed of, at their nominal value, a profit will accrue to the Government. A new account must be introduced to embear this profit & for other purposes. I shall in a few days address you with a view to this point, and also in explanation of the views of the Department relative to the distribution of the new Coin.

very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,

R. M. Patterson,

(Director.)

Mint of the United States
26 April 1851

Sir,

I send by this days mail one pair of three cent dies; two other pairs will follow on succeeding days. The ingot moulds will be ready in 4 or 5 days. I shall forward them by Steamer.

In addition to the details communicated by me already as to the best methods of working for the three cent piece, I have to add a caution as to the necessity of using only the purest silver & copper for the mixture. We have had to condemn a considerable supply of planchets, all ready for striking, but which are found too hard to be worked, owing to the melt having contained too large a proportion of base silver.

Enclosed ~~are~~ is a bill of lading for 21 carboys of acid. I observe that they were insured, although I had not designed this precaution, & shall only have insurance effected where the amount shipped in one vessel is of very great value.

Very respectfully
Your faithful Servt
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

R. M. McAlpin, Esq
Supt. New Orleans.

P. S. I enclose some specimen 3 cent pieces. (over)

I am requested by the Department to give information as to the time at which you can commence the ~~[illegible]~~ Coinage of the 2 cent piece & the amount you can issue monthly. . . I shall be glad to receive your views on the subject.

Do/

Sup. B. M.

New Orleans

26 Ap. '51

# Proposed Journal Entries

Silver Bullion dep'd for Coinage Dr. to M. & R. Dis a/c of Silver

For 85,937.50 ounces standard Silver ~~contained in~~

~~103,125~~

Branch Mint New Orleans
30 April 1851.—

Sir

Your letter of the 22nd inst has been received, enclosing bills of lading for nitric acid, & for a package of merchandize.

What relates to the new coinage of 3 cent pieces interesting to the coiner has been communicated to him, and the Melter & Refiner has been directed to reserve fine Silver from the Separating room.

very respectfully
Your most obt. Servt.
Wm. P. Hort
Acting Superintendent.

P. S. In a letter received yesterday from Col McAlpin, he informs me that he expects to be here on the 10th of May, or perhaps a day or two sooner.
H

Dr. R. M. Patterson
(Director of the Mints)

From,

Supt B. M.

New Orleans

Recd. May 9 30 Ap. 51

May
~~April~~ 1851

Branch Mint New Orleans 5 May 1851.

Sir,

Your communication of the 25th ult.o has been received; also the dies, specimens of the three cent pieces, and the bill of lading for 21 carboys of Nitric acid.

Your caution as to the necessity of using only the purest Silver & copper has been made known to the Melter & Refiner.

The Coiner is not aware of the precise weight of the three cent piece as ordained by law.

Most respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
Wm P. Hort
Actg Supt.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
(Director of the Mint.

Dom,

Sap. at N. Orleans
5 May 1851

Recd. 14

## New York, Philadelphia & New Orleans Telegraph,

**DIRECT.**

Office, 97 Chestnut Street, above Third, North Side,
**PHILADELPHIA.**

---

*The following communication has been received:*

Dated, N Orleans May 6 1851

Dr R L Patterson

Please inform us what is the legal limit of the title and weight of the Three cent pieces

Wm P Hort
Acting Supt

Ansd by telegraph same day.

From,
Supt. at
New Orleans

Recd. 8 6 May 185

U.S. Branch Mint
New Orleans May 15th 1851

Dr R M Patterson
Director

Sir

I am pleased to state that we are now ready to proceed with the Coinage of Three Cent pieces, in fact two melts of Ingots passed this morning. Our surplus of Silver Bullion "which can be used in making 3 Cent pieces" after deducting amt due depositors and required for separating is near $100.000. Mr Duvall informs me we can coin $25.000 per Month but will have to discontinue the Coinage of Dimes & Hf Dimes, Qr Eagles and gold Dollars - as we have but one Press for small Coins. We can, and will if found necessary alter another Press for said Coins. Our community are suffering greatly for change I am consequently making all the small coin I can consistent with our duty to depositors -

I anticipate much the same difficulty in putting 3 Cent pieces in Circulation that there was in the 5 and 10. our advantage we now have, change being so scarce people will be compelled to take them— After the issuing of the 3 cent piece it was five months before we could get more than half as much in market for them as we could for the old 6¼ piece "Spanish"—

Our Post Master informs me he will require 500 & 1000$ per week— I would thank you to inform me if we are to issue the 3 ct pieces as fast as we can coin them—

I have heard it suggested that California will take in any considerable quantity—

Not being able to ship the empty Carboys I have disposed of them at 50 c each payable in Separating Acid at 3 c per lb—

There has been no Vessel for "London" in two months, will ship as you suggested per first vessel one Bill Exch— I have received three pair 3 cent dies—

With great respect
Your faithful Servt

R. M. McAlpine

From,

R. M. McAlpin
Sup. B. M.
New Orleans

Recd. 24 15 May 1851

Branch Mint New Orleans 7 May 1851

Sir,

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the second pair of dies for the new three cent coinage

very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Wm P. Hort
Actg Supt.

Dr Patterson
Director of the Mints

From.

Supt. Branch Mint

New Orleans

Rec'd 15 7 May 1852

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, 15 May 1851.

Sir,

I enclose a bill of lading for nitric acid, and also a receipt from Adams & Co. for a box containing ingot moulds for the three cent piece.

The telegraphic despatch inquiring as to the limits allowed on the 3 cent piece was received and answered at once by the same conveyance. I had omitted a reference to such matters in my previous letter from having, too readily perhaps, assumed that the laws relating to the coin, having been extensively published would have been preserved for reference by you. The particulars are as follows: fineness ~~At~~ 750, wt. 12$\frac{3}{8}$; limits of variation, in ingots ~~[illegible]~~ 5 thousandths, in weight $\frac{1}{2}$ a grain in one piece, one pennywt in a thousand pieces.

There are some points relative to the forms of accounting for this coinage which have not yet been settled here to our satisfaction, so that I am unable as yet to give you definite instructions upon the point. The difficulties are presented by the variation in standard introduced, and by the profit accruing from the coinage. The plan which will probably be adopted is to convert the weight of these ingots, by calculation, into their corresponding weight at standard 900, entering the value at what would be yielded in coins 900 fine. The same weight and value are charged to the Coiner. In returning clips & coins in the same manner the actual weight & value are ~~computed as if~~ converted into the intrinsic value &

weight which they would yield in clips or coins 900 fine. By such a plan the coiner, in delivering $12000 3 cent coins is only credited for $10000, that being the value of the 8,593.75 ounces at standard 900 which they contain. The $2000 profit arising from the enhanced nominal value of the coin, is made a charge upon the Treasurer by an entry Crediting 3 cent Profit & Loss and charging Silver Coinage. It would seem that such a method of accounting introduces the least possible innovation on the system at present adopted.

The Department, considering that in the present state of the silver market the greater part of the bullion for this coinage must be supplied by it, has reserved one half of such coinage for the use of the Assistant Treasurers and Depositaries in certain proportions. I do not know that you have yet received any instructions from the Secretary relative to this matter. I beg that you will advise me of what the progress or prospects of such coinage appear, so that I may advise the Department in such time as to enable you to commence a distribution at an early day to the parties whom it may advise.

From the Profits of the Coinage you are authorised to defray the expense of distributing the coins to such Government officers as may be indicated.

We are authorised, and the authority I assume is extended to your Mint, to accept the bills of lading of Adams & Co. as preliminary vouchers for such payments from our Silver Coinage as may be made to the officers named, the actual receipts, when receipted, being afterwards substituted. On presenting an account, to the Department of the payments thus made, vouched as I have mentioned, a draft will be issued on the Assistant Treasurer to replace the amount in your Coinage.

The second half of the coinage of three cent pieces is reserved for the private applicants, and may be paid out either for deposites, or in exchange for other American coin. In such a distribution, a discretion is allowed to sell not less than $30 nor more than $150 to a single applicant. In exercising this discretion you will probably find it expedient to limit your sales, in the first instance, when the demand is great, to the lower amount. We have had prepared, by E. Ponvert, New York, bags labelled "U. S. Mint $30" (or "$60" or $150), in which the coins are placed, and handed, without count, to the applicants.

We do not propose, at present, to distribute the coin at the expense or care of the Mint, into distant cities, except to the government officers as above referred to.

Two subsidiary accounts will be necessary in transacting the business relative to 3 cent coinage. 1st A 3cent Profit & Loss a/c, which will be credited with the gain by the Coinage, and charged with expenses of distribution, premium on silver purchased, bags, copper alloy &c. The balance which will accrue to the Government, as net profit, is subject to the future disposition of the department. You should also keep an account showing the sums distributed to the different public officers for which the bills of lading &c are your only vouchers. This will also serve to show the correctness of the bills presented against you for transportation to such officers. It will be well, also, to keep a memorandum of the exchanges made by you for other money.

The House of Adams & Co contract with us to deliver the coin at certain places specified at low rates, and at their risk. You had best make have some understanding with that or some other house upon the subject prior to the issue of the coin.–

I have to acknowledge your report and assay Coins for April.

Will you have the goodness to inform me what delay your depositors now experience in receiving payment

Very respectfully,

Your faithful Servant,

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

R. M. McAlpin, Esq. Supt.
New Orleans.

P.S. I have a bill of lading per Ship Silas Holmes for your lead pots from Taunton, dated 30th ulto.

Your funds in my hands have been some time exhausted. I shall require about $5000 to pay bills due & the balance overdrawn.

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, May 27. 1851.

Sir,

Your communication of the 15th instant, addressed to the Superintendent of this Branch, has been handed to me, and I have carefully read your remarks relative to the forms of accounting for the coinage of the 3 cent pieces. - The plan which you say, will probably be adopted, will, I think, answer every purpose, and certainly present the least innovation in the system now in force. -

In accordance with the request contained in the letter above referred to, I transmit herewith, original check No. 4. of the Canal & Banking Co. of this City, on the Bank of Commerce, New York, payable to your order for $5.000. - for the payment of articles purchased for this Branch, which you will please pass to the credit of my account.

Your letter of the 10th March last, was recd. in due course, and I have to thank you for the information therein contained. - We have adopted the new forms of keeping and rendering the Bullion accounts, and find that the labor in this Office has been greatly abridged.—

Very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director Mint of the U. States
Philadelphia

From,

Wm. De Buys, Treasr.

New Orleans

Recd. June 4th 27 May 1851.

[illegible] $5000 [illegible]

June 1851

U.S. Branch Mint
New Orleans May 27th 1851

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director Phila

Sir

Your favor of 15th Inst is to hand with B/L's also contents duly noted —

The Ingot Moulds have come to hand and prove satisfactory to Dr Bonzano.

I have given the Treasurer Mr Wm DeBuys a copy of your Letter, Mr DeB will write you at length to day — also will forward you Check for $5000. Five Thousand dollars to place to Credit of this Mint —

Our empty Carboys being exposed to the weather are in very bad order, and I fear would scarcely bear shipment, and therefore think 50¢ better here than 1$ in Phila

You will greatly oblige by forwarding a statement of moneys paid by you for this Mint —

The Amount of Gold Bullion in the Mint is about $1,750,000 of this Amt $830,000 is due depositors. The Coiner informs me he certainly will be able to Coin this Amt within the next two weeks, and as our deposits are not very large. I can safely say we will pay all deposits now made in three weeks -

We are progressing very well with the coinage of 3 cent peices. we find that we can bleach the planchets much better in a Roaster heated by a jet of steam than by hand - I have nothing from the Department in relation to this matter -

Your suggestions about distributing the coin shall have due attention

Very respectfully
Yr obt & faithfull servant

R. M. McAlpin

Superintendent

From;

R. M. McAlpin, Sup.

New Orleans

Rec'd June 4 27 May 1857.

[illegible]

June 1857

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, June 2. 1851.

Sir,

Referring to my letter to you of the 27th. ulto I have now to wait upon you with duplicate Check No. 4. of the Canal & Banking Co of this City, on the Bank of Commerce New York, payable to your order for $5.000. — to be used for the payment of articles purchased for this Branch Mint, which you will please place to the credit of my account.

Very respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Dr. R. M. Patterson,
Director Mint of the U. States
Philadelphia

From,

A. De Buys, Treas.

New Orleans

2d. June 1857

Recd. 11th

[illegible] × [2.] ×

U.S. Branch Mint
New Orleans June 4th 1851

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint

Sir

I have the honor to enclose you herewith a statement of the deposits & Coinage of this Mint during the month of May — also a memorandum of the Coins reserved for assaying during the same period —

The Coins are forwarded by this days mail — In mine of 27th May I should have said drying the Planchets instead of Bleaching them —

Nothing yet from the Department about 3 cent pieces

Very respectfully
Your faithfull Servant

R. M. McAlpin
Superintendent

From,

R. M. McAlpin
Sup.t N. O.
4 June 1857

Recd. 12

N. 20x

Mint of the United States
June 12, 1851.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your letters of 27th ult. & 4th inst, and the assay coins reserved during the past month. The letters of Mr. DeBuys, Treas., and a draft for $5000, original & duplicate, have also been received.

Enclosed I present my a/c with the Treas. and the accompanying vouchers, to the 31st ult. Since it was closed I have received $5000 and paid $3711.68 to Loring & Co., leaving ~~an~~ in my hands unexpended $[illegible].07. Against this sum are to be set a bill for [illegible] of $662.86, and for acids of $4,813.39, being the unpaid part of the amount furnished to Ap. 23d. You will see the necessity of sending on a further remittance of 5 or 6000. Any draft you send should be in favor of the "Director of the Mint," without naming any individual, since I have resigned my office to take effect at the close of this month. I have no official knowledge of the gentleman who has been designated to succeed me, but I believe it is well ascertained that Dr. Eckert, of Reading, Pa, has been appointed.

I have written to the Department, under date of 29th ult. requesting that you should be instructed as to the distribution of 3 cent coins. If you should not receive instructions it would not be improper in you to distribute the coins to Ass.t Treas. & depositaries, or post-masters in the region commercially connected with your city, remembering that this distribution has relation only to one-half the coinage, the other half being reserved for exchange on demand at the Mint. You will preserve bills of lading for the amounts sent to Gov't offices in distant cities, which will be your vouchers (in the first instance until regular receipts are obtained) for so much parted with from your coinage. A statement, accompanied by these vouchers will be sent by you to the Dep't. from time to time, when you will receive a draft on the Ass't Treas'y the proceeds of which will replace the amount thus taken. These bills of lading & vouchers will be counted as so much cash.

The method of accounting for 3 cent transactions which was suggested in my letter of the 15th ult. will be adopted by us. By this plan the weight of 3 cent material, whether in ingots, clips, or coins, is, for the purposes of journalizing & warrants, converted into the weight at 900 ths, or ordinary standard. The value ex is that which should correspond to the standard weight thus indicated, no notice being taken of the depreciated character of the coin till it reaches the Treasury, when the enhanced nominal value arising from this circumstance is specially charged to him. Thus, a delivery of 92,812.50 ozs 3 cent ingots, is credited (& correspondingly charged) at 77,343.75 ozs 900 Fo, value $90,000. Also, a delivery of 2,400,000 pieces 3 cent coins, weighing gross 61,875 ozs, is credited & charged as 51,562.50 ozs 900 Fo, value $60,000. Silver coinage, by such an entry, is charged $60,000 for 2,400,000 pieces, valued by tale at $72,000. An entry charging Silver Coinage, and crediting Three Cent Profit & Loss $12,000 will provide for this discrepancy, and a corresponding warrant for the amount should also issue.

If there be any details as to this matter about which difficulties should present themselves I should be glad to have them suggested.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Robt. M. McAlpin, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

No (

R. M. McAlpin, Esq.

N. Orleans

June 12/57

[illegible]

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, June 12. 1851.

Sir,

In accordance with instructions from the Treasury Dept. I have the honor to transmit herewith, the bonds of three of the Clerks nominated by me, under the joint resolution changing the mode of appointing the Clerks of the Mints of the United States, approved March 3. 1851. which after receiving your approval, are to be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary of the Treasury. -

The bond of the Weigher, E. Prats, has not yet been prepared, this gentleman being now absent in consequence of sickness; As soon as he returns, which will be shortly, the bond shall be executed and forwarded to you without delay. - I will thank you, to state this circumstance in your letter to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Very respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Dr. R. M. Patterson,
Director Mint of the U. S.
Philadelphia

From,

Wm. de Buys Treas.
N. Orleans

Recd. 23 12 June 1857

Treasury Department
June 21. 1851

Sir

Referring to your letter to the Department dated the 24th ulto. and which had escaped attention, I have to request that you will give the necessary instructions to the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans to proceed with the coinage of 3 cent pieces, without discontinuing entirely, or materially inter:fering with, the coinage of other small pieces of gold & silver. The $100.000 of silver in his bullion fund to be used for that purpose

Being somewhat at a loss in what manner to direct the distribution of the amount from N. Orleans the Department will thank you to ascertain & report the views of the Superintendent on that point.

Be pleased to state what balance remains in the Mint of the amount deposited for 3 cent pieces to be sent to Norfolk.

I am very Resp^y.

Wm L Hodge
Acting Sec. Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint.
Philada.

2610
2390
5000

From,

Sec. of Treasy

Washington

Recd. 23 21 June 1851

[illegible]

[illegible]

Mint of the United States
23 June 1851.

Sir,

A letter from the Department, rec'd this morning has the following. "Referring to your letter to the Dep't dated the 27 ult: and which had escaped attention, I have to request that you will give the necessary instructions to the Sup't of the B. Mint N.O. to proceed with the coinage of 3 cent pieces without discontinuing entirely, or materially interfering with the coinage of other small pieces of gold or silver. The surplus of silver in his bullion fund to be used for that purpose.

"Being somewhat at a loss in what manner to direct the distribution of the am't from N.O. the Dep't will thank you to ascertain & report the views of the Sup't on that point."

While asking your attention to the letter above quoted, I may mention that I stated, in reply, the advice which I had given you relative to the distrib'n of 3 cents in my letter of 15th inst., and I have no doubt that any action in conformity therewith will be approved.

Your telegraph resp'g 3 cents was answered by one with a reference to the same letter of the 15th for details.

Very resp'y yr obt Serv't
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

R. M. McAlpin, Esq.
Supt.
New Orleans.

The following Statement shows the Coinage made at the Branch of the U.S. Mint New Orleans from 20th Jany to 30th June 1851 inclusive

## Gold

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 230.000. | Double Eagles | $ 4.600.000.00 |
| 117.000. | Eagles | 1.170.000.00 |
| 33.000. | Half Eagles | 165.000.00 |
| 128.000. | Quarter Eagles | 320.000.00 |
| 120.000. | Gold Dollars | 120.000.00 |
| 628.000. | Gold Coins — | Dollrs 6.375.000.00 |

## Silver

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 250.000. | Half Dollars | 125.000.00 |
| 230.000. | Dimes | 23.000.00 |
| 480 000. | Half Dimes | 24.000.00 |
| 150 000. | Three Cent pieces | 4.500.00 |
| 1.110.000 | Silver Coins — | Dollrs 176.500.00 |

## Grand Total

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 628.000. | Gold Coins | $ 6.375.000.00 |
| 1.110.000. | Silver Coins | 176.500.00 |
| 1,738,000. | — Total — | Dollrs 6.551.500.00 |

$20.000 3 cent pieces not yet delivered

Mint of the United States,
23d June 1851.

Sir,

The bonds of the Mint & Assist. Treasy. clerks have been received, this morning. They have been forwarded to the Dept., the former with my approval. The bond of the Assist. Treasy. clerk I did not approve, on grounds of scruple as to the legality of my taking on myself any supervision of that branch of the Treasy.

Very respy. yr. obt. Servt.

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

Wm. DeBuys, Esq.
Treasr. &c.
New Orleans.

87

Treas. at N. Orleans

23 June 1851

[illegible]

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, June 28. 1851.

Sir,

Referring to my letter of the 12d instant, I now transmit the bond of Mr. Emile Prats, one of the Clerks of this Branch Mint, which after receiving your approval, is to be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary of the Treasury.

Your account to the 31st. ulto has been received, and I notice that to enable you to pay for articles purchased for this Branch, you will require a further remittance of 5 or $6000.- In a few days our requisition will be made for the expenses of the approaching quarter, when the Secretary of the Treasury will be requested to send you a draft for the required sum.

Very respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Dr. R. M. Patterson,
Director Mint of the U. S.
Philadelphia

From,

Wm. de Buys, Treasr.
New Orleans

Recd 7 July 1857.
28 June 1857

July 1857

Mint of the United States,
Philada 30 June 1857.

Received of Dr. R. M. Patterson, One thousand and twenty one $\frac{91}{100}$ dollars, being the aggregate of certain balances held by him, as Director of the Mint, for the account of the Branch Mints at New Orleans, Charlotte, and Dahlonega, as by

S/

Sup. at N. Orleans

23 June 1857

× [illegible] ×

JULY 3RD 1851

Mint of the United States
Philada 3 July, 1851

Sir,

In reply to your communication of yesterday, I have the honor to state that, in my opinion, the leave of absence, for the month of August, which has been asked for by the Superintendent of the New Orleans Branch Mint, might be granted without any inconvenience. Such absences have been frequently allowed on former occasions, and I am not aware that they have given rise to complaint.

Very respectfully,
your faithful servant,
G N Eckert
Director

Hon. W. L. Hodge, Esq.
Actg Secr. of the Treasury
Washington.

Branch Mint Funds in the hands of the Director, June 30, 1851

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Held for the Branch Mint, New Orleans | 440 | 01 |
| ditto Charlotte | 253 | 23 |
| ditto Dahlonega | 328 | 67 |
| | $1,021 | 91 |

To

Sec. of Treasy

3 July 1856.

Mint of the United States,
Philada 7 July 1851.

Sir,

Having been authorised by the Secretary of the Treasury, I have the pleasure to grant you the leave of absence asked for by you, during the months of August & September. I presume that you are authorised, under the 4th Section of the Mint Act of Jan. 18, 1837, to designate in writing some person attached to the Mint to act in your absence.

I will thank you to mention to Mr. DeBuys that his letter of 28th ult. is received, enclosing the bond of Mr. Prats, which I send approved to the Department.

Very respectfully,
Your obdt Servt

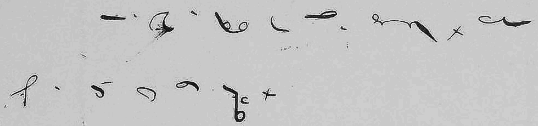
Geo N Eckert
Director

R. M. McAlpin, Esq
Supt. U. S. M.
New Orleans.

Pol

Sup. at New Orleans

7 July '57



JULY 7th 1851

Mint of the United States,
Philada. 7 July 1851.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose the bond of Mr. Emile Prats, appointed a Clerk at the Branch Mint, New Orleans, and, on the authority of the justification on oath by the security proposed, I have given my approval of the bond.

I have also to acknowledge your letter allowing the leave of absence asked for by the Superintendent at the New Orleans Branch Mint, and authorising me to grant a similar request from the Branch Mint at Charlotte. It is proper to mention that the request from the Charlotte Mint was for a suspension of operations during the summer or sickly months, as will appear by a letter of 30th ult. from this office. I respectfully request to be informed whether the suspension may be authorised.

Geo N Eckert

very respy your obdt Servt

Wm. L. Hodge, Esq
Actg Secy of Treasy

Director

379
92850
835650
64995
2786
277
28
3
903741

8249
39630
356670
15852
3793
119
12
1
~~373843~~
373447

7249
39630
356670
15852
793
277
28
3
373623

189
24610
221490
19688
246
25
2
241451

151881
13807
11046
176234

399
8540
76860
7686
256
26
3
84831

879
101170
910530
70819
8094
809
81
8
990341

8

6

5124600
1000000
100

101170
910530
1922230

107517
9774
7819
125110

3.68
47.42

To/

Secy of Treasy
Washington

7 July 1857.

[illegible]

[illegible]

U S Branch Mint
New Orleans July 6th 1857

Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Sir

I have the honor of enclosing herewith a statement of the deposits and coinage of this Mint during the month of June, also a memorandum of the Coins reserved for assaying during the same period — The Coins are forwarded by this days mail —

I have shipped per Ship "Bombay" to Liverpool, to be sold for a/c of this Mint all our Gold and Silver Sweeps and Grains, as suggested by Dr Patterson. Dr J W Harman will attend to the sale — I enclose a Copy of the assay of the same and when sold will report the result —

In reply to your query in regard to my views relation to the distribution of the 3 Cents Coins, I will remark that after consulting with my brother officers, the Post Master &c I am of opinion that all the P. Offices in the South and South West can be supplied through our

Post Master Mr Mason. who tells me that he has already remitted to various Country Offices $500. We are paying in Amounts of $30. $60 & 150$ to all who apply. The demand is not as great as I anticipated — Change is much scarcer in the Country than in the City. If the P.O. is supplied with Stamps, my few 3 Cent pieces will be used by our commercial community —

Our Mint is now out of debt, and I am devoting my attention to the smaller Gold Coins which are much needed —
We have little Silver to Coin —

I note in yours of 12th inst a request for a remittance of $1000. it shall have my attention as soon as this quarters requisition is received — I do not doubt but that we will be able to meet any demand that may be made for 3 Cent pieces —

Very respectfully
Your faithful Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supt

From,

R. M. McAlpin, Esq

New Orleans

Recd. 16 8 July 1851

# Silver contained in Sweep of 1848 1849. 1850

| | Weight | | Title in 5 Troy Oz. m. | Oz. | Dc |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Washed Grains of 1848. | 2308 lb | Avoirdupois | 10.150. | 2441. | 01. |
| Do. Do. . 1849. | 1042. | Do. | 13,508 | 1466. | 00. |
| Do. Do. . 1850. | 1648. | Do. | 7.275 | 1249. | 27. |
| Silver Sweep . 1849. | 4587. | Do. | 1,042. | 498. | 03. |
| Do. Do Lot. 1. 1850. | 10.927. | Do. | 2087. | 2376. | 24 |
| Do. Do. . 2. 1850. | 2533. | Do. | 1330. | 351. | 03. |
| Silver in Gold Sweep. 1850. | 7903. | Do. | 459. | 377. | 98. |
| | | Standard Ounces. | | 8759. | 56. |

# Gold contained in Sweep. of 1849. & 1850.

| | Weight | | Title in 5 oz Troy. | Oz. | Dc. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gold Sweep of. 1849. | 830. | Avoirdupois | 222. | 19. | 199. |
| Do. Do. . 1850. | 7903. | Do. | 261. | 214. | 931. |
| | | Standard Ounces. | | 234. | 130. |

Treasury Department
July 21st 1851

Sir,

A letter of business under date of the 11th inst. received at this Department on the 19th inst. from R. M. McAlpin Esq. Superintendt. of the U.S. Br. Mint at New Orleans contains the following,

"I have further to request that you will remit from the Inc. & Contgt. fund
"$6000 - Six thousand Dollars to the Director of the Mint Philadelphia to pay
"for Acids &c purchased for the use of this Mint."

This extract from Mr. McAlpin's letter, will explain the object of a remittance of the sum of $6000, which I have this day directed to be made to you. As this amount will be charged upon the Books of the Treasury to Wm. De Buys Esq. Treasurer of the said U.S. Br. Mint - due care should be observed, in the accuracy of the vouchers, taken for this expenditure, that the accountability required of Mr. DeBuys, may be faithfully discharged.

The above amount, to wit, $6000 will be transmitted to you by the Treasurer of the U.S. as soon as the Warrant passes the usual forms of business

Very Respectfully Sir,
I remain Your Ob. Ser.
Wm L Hodge
Act. Secretary of the Treasury

Dr. Geo. N. Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia Penn.

From,

Sec. of Treasy

Washington

21 July 1857.

Rec'd 22d.

United States Branch Mint
New Orleans July 24th. 1851.

Sir

Having been informed by you of your intended visit to the Mother Mint in Philadela. I am very desirous to call your attention to two subjects which I conceive to be of very great importance to the character & well being of our branch of said Mint.

I believe it is as well known to the Treasurer, the Melter & Refiner, & the Weigh master as it is to myself that the Balance in the Treasrs. Office or Weighroom (on which all the bullion of this branch Mint is officially weighed) is so greatly inaccurate that the "Porter" can make a difference of 20/100ths of an ounce by the manner in which he places the bullion on the balance. And what is of more importance to the Coining dept. is the fact that the "Beam" of said balance is so very untrue, that the bullion side with 1000. Oz. minus from 8 to 10/100th of an ounce will balance 1000 Oz on the weight side: hence if the Coiner receives his Ingots by this balance & delivers his Coins full standard by the same, still at the Annual test, his Coins will run light at the rate 10/100th of an ounce on 1000 Oz (be the weight more or less) when weighed on an accurate balance by the Commissioners. I would therefore most respectfully suggest that a new

and accurate Balance be procured with
as little delay as possible & put up in the
place of those now in use.—

The next subject I wish to call your
attention to is this— There seems at this present
time, to be a great demand for Gold Dollar Coins,
but as we have only one small press, & that is
almost constantly required for the Stamping
of the Three Cent Coins, it is impracticable to
comply with the demands of the Public without interfering with coinage of Three cent coins
whereas if we could only procure another
small press I think it possible we might be
able to supply the demand for small
Coins.—

I remain most respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
Jno. E. Brown
Actg. Coiner

R. M. McAlpin Esqr
Supt. U. S. B. Mint
New Orleans.

Melter & Refiner's Office,
July 24th 1851.

I concur in the opinion of the present acting coiner, Mr. John F. Brown, regarding the balance used for the deliveries of bullion & coins, and deem it absolutely necessary to replace the same in the shortest possible time, by an accurate one.

Respectfully

M. F. Bonzano
Melter & Refiner

To R. M. McAlpin, Esq.
Supt. Branch Mint N. O.

---

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, July 24. 1851.

I concur in the opinion expressed by the Acting Coiner and the Melter & Refiner, relative to the Scales now used in this Office, and trust that their recommendation may be attended to.

Respectfully,
Wm. O. Boys
Treasurer

To R. M. McAlpin, Esq.
Supt. Branch Mint,
New Orleans.

From,

R. M. McAlpin
New Orleans.

Presented by himself.
2 Sept. 1857.

September 1861

# Statement of Liabilities and Assets of the Branch Mint of the United States at N. Orleans this 25th July 1851

## Liabilities

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount due to the Govt. for the dep | | $ 1.100.000.00 |
| Gold deposites remaining unpaid | | " 123.385.27 |
| Silver deposites do do | | " 3.606.43 |
| | | $ 1.226.991.70 |

## Assets

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Gold Bullion in Process of Coinage | $ 710.484.14 | |
| Silver Bullion do do | " 175.857.99 | |
| | | $ 886342.13 |
| Balance of Gold Coinage | $ 308.574.68 | |
| Balance of Silver Coinage (of (which $ 8.000 in 3¢ pieces) | " 32.074.89 | |
| | | $ 340.649.57 |
| | | $ 1.226.991.70 |

Branch Mint of the U. States N. Orleans
Treasurer's Office July 25th 1851
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Branch of the United States Mint
New Orleans Augt 5th 1851.

The following is a list of the Coining Dies received by me at the United States Mint in Philadelphia, & this day deposited in the Coiner's Vault of the United States Branch Mint New Orleans — —

| | | Heads | Tails | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gold | Double Eagle | 3 | 3 | ✓ |
| | Eagle | 3 | 3 | ✓ |
| | Half Eagle | 2 | 2 | ✓ |
| | Quarter Eagle | 4 | 4 | ✓ |
| Silver | Half Dollar | 4 | 4 | ✓ |
| | Quarter Dollar | 3 | 3 | ✓ |
| | Dime | 6 | 6 | ✓ |
| | Half Dime | 4 | 4 | ✓ |
| | Three Cent | 4 | 4 | ✓ |
| | | 33 | 33 | |

Making in All 33 Pair of Dies

A. Derall
Coiner

Branch Mint
New Orleans 6th Augt 1851

Sir,

I have examined the dies brought on by Mr Derall; they are in good order & condition, and the above specification is correct

Respectfully
Your obt Servt
Wm P. Hort
Acting Superintendent

Dr Geo N Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

From,

Actg Sup. at N. O.

1 Aug. 1857

Recd. 13

[illegible]

August 1857

Branch Mint N. O  5 Augt 1851.

Sir,

I hereby transmit the usual monthly statement of reserved gold & silver coins for the annual aſsay in Philadelphia, also of the bullion received, and the amount coined in the month of July. The aſsay coins will go by this mail

very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
Wm P. Hort
Acting Supt.

Dr. Geo. N. Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia.

From,

Sup. at N. Orleans
5 Aug. 1851.

Recd. 15

NEW ORLEANS, 1851 (CONT.)

Mint of the United States
3 May 1851.

To the Melter & Refiner
& Chief Coiner of the Mint.

Gent.,

My attention has been called to the very large scale of expenditure on which the Mint is now conducted, and I deem it my duty to direct your notice to the fact, as being the Officers under whose superintendence these expenses are chiefly incurred.

The expenses during the year commencing April 1st 1849, & ending March 31st 1850 were as follows: viz

2d quar. 1849.- Incidentals $ 3.446.25 Wages $

109,160.78 18,883.11 1,950 129,993.89

88838. / 218,832 (2.463
177676
411560
355352
562080
533028
290520
266,514

60

900000
300000

~~10~~

60,000
5
65,000
5911
70,911

16
1,558

72

72
6,555
78,
18
96,

100 : 246

3595
28760
21570
668670.00

SM

Actg Supt at
New Orleans

20 Aug. 1857

Mint of the United States,
Philada 19 Aug. 1857.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of the Report of your Mint, for July, together with the Assay Coins reserved during the same month. The statement of dies received has also reached me.

The draft from Washington (No. 208 on Warrt 5216) for $6000 was duly received, & has enabled me to settle the bill for acids to June 21st, leaving a small surplus on hand, which will be exhausted by outstanding bills. A few more thousand dollars, (say $3000) should be sent at an early day.

Very respectfully,
your obdt Servt

G N Eckert
Director

R. M. McAlpin Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

Corporation for Relief &c.
Philada. 24 June 1857.

Dear Sir,

The resolution passed at the late

Sd/

R. M. McAlpine, Esq

New Orleans

19 Aug. 1851.

[illegible] $6000, [illegible]

[illegible] $3000 [illegible]

Mint of the United States
Philada. 20 Aug. 1851.

Sir,

In the list of dies stated by you, in your letter of the 6th to have been received through Mr. Devall, I find a discrepancy from the list retained by us to which your attention is called. Our list enumerates 6 pair of half dimes, yours but 4 pair. In the whole there were delivered to Mr. Devall 35 pair of dies, in 35 boxes, numbered 43 to 73, & 4 to 7.

Very Respectfully,
Your obdt Servt
G. N. Eckert, Director,
by R. Patterson
Director's Clerk.

Wm. P. Hort, M.D. }
Actg Supt N.O. }

Branch Mint New Orleans
29 August 1851

Sir

Your letter of the 20th inst. came duly to hand, and it was immediately submitted to the Coiner, whose statement on the subject of the two pair of half dime dies which are missing I herewith enclose. I was not present when the box was opened, but saw it a short time subsequently. Nothing appeared to be missing, for the box was well packed. Thirty three pair of dies were taken from it & examined by me. They have not been removed from the vault since they arrived, & on examining them yesterday, I counted 33 pair as in the first instance

very respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
Wm P. Hort
Acting Sup.t

Dr G N Eckert
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

From,

Actg Supt. at
New Orleans

Recd. 6 Sept '51 29 Aug. 1851

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Augt 28th 1851.

Dr Sir

I have read the communication to you from the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia, in response to your letter to him, giving an account and statement of the Coining Dies received by you for this Branch, through me — In which the Director notices a discrepancy between the dies actually received, and the memorandum retained by him of those delivered to me at Philadelphia.

On a careful examination of the numbers upon the boxes containing the dies I find that numbers 58. and 61. are not to be found — enclosing Half dime dies — How to account for their non appearance, I am unable to say, unleſs an error has been made in numbering the boxes or unleſs the trunk containing the boxes has been picked during my travels; which appears to me to be very improbable for the reasons — first —

If the thief had sought to procure dies he would scarcely have contented himself with two pair of half dime dies, when he could have taken at the same time, a larger denomination, or an aſsortment of several denominations.

Secondly I guarded the trunk containing the dies with the greatest solicitude and watchfulneſs. — it never left my presence, except when arriving at a Hotel I caused it to be placed in the strong box in the clerks office — & except further when travelling on the rail-road Cars, I caused the trunk to be placed in the baggage Cars for the reason that the conductors would not consent to have it put into the passenger cars owing to it's great weight The great weight of the trunk which was small, may have caused suspicion that it contained Specie or California gold, & this may have excited the cupidity of those who had immediate charge of the baggage on the cars— but on opening the trunk here in presence of Mr Brown (my assistant) the trunk showed no symtoms of having been opened, and the number of pairs counted by us 33. corresponded well with my recollection of the number which was put into the trunk at Philadelphia— I recollect that I was furnished with a memorandum by Mr Eckfelt, and I thought I had put it in the trunk with the dies: but on examination have not been able to find it; It is an accident which causes in my mind, the profoundest regret, & nothing but the conciousness of having bestowed great deligence and watchfulness in guarding the dies entrusted to my care, and firm conviction that if those two pair of dies have been abstracted from the trunk it was done without the possibility of my knowing it could relieve me from self reproach—

I trust you will do me the favo to communicate with the Director at Philadelphia Mint and request him to see the assistant Coiner there Mr Eckfelt and ask him to examine again and ascertain whether the two missing numbers may not have been left out by accident —

I have the honor to be
very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
(Signed) A. Duvall

Doctr W. P. Hort
Actg Superintendt
U. S. Br Mint
New Orleans

Branch Mint New Orleans
2nd. September 1851.

Sir,

You will herewith receive the usual monthly Statement of the deposites and coinage at this Branch Mint for the month of August 1851, also of the reserved coins for aſsay, duly taken from deliveries during the said period.

The aſsay coins will be immediately forwarded.

respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
Wm. P. Hort
Acting Supt.

Dr. G. N. Eckert
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia.

From,

W. P. Hort
Actg Supt

N. Orleans

Recd. 11 Sept 57

Liverpool. Sep. 1st 1851.

Robt. M. McAlpin Esq.
Superintendt. N.O. Branch Mint

Dear Sir.

Refer'g you to my last, acknowledging the receipt of your esteemed favor dated July 8th enclosing bill of lading & invoice, I now have the pleasure of informing you, that the "Bombay" has arrived after the unusually protracted passage of 50 days. as the sweep was at the bottom of the ship's hold, I was unable to effect a landing till a week had elapsed after her arrival, It has been stored in one of the warehouses of Messrs. Baring Brothers & Co and fire insurance effected at the Royal Exchange Assurance London, to the amo. of £4000 stg—
The sweep has also been started, into bulk & thoroughly mixed— keeping each lot distinct. Samples have also been drawn and forwarded to all the Smelters of Europe. The highest bidder will come to L'pool & verify the samples which he received and the sweep will be delivered on the payment of cash only. In the absence of any definite instructions on that point, unless, I should, in the

mean time, receive orders to the contrary, I shall deposite the money with Mess: Baring Brothers & Co (Bankers for the U.S.) and forward you their letter of credit for the amt. by virtue of which You will be able to sell bills of Exchge. for the same.

With sanguine anticipations, that the result will be eminently satisfactory

I have the honor to be,
with great respect,
Yr obt Servt
(Signed)

Jos. W. Fairman

Copy.

Liverpool, Octo 10th, 1851

Robt. M. McAlpin Esq.
Superintdt. N. O. Br. Mint,

Dear Sir.

Refer'g you to my two last letters, in which I stated that the "Bombay" had arrived after a passage of 50 days, that the sweep had been warehoused, Started into bulk, thoroughly mixed, keeping each lot ~~mixed~~ distinct & that samples had been forwarded — to all the principal Smelters of Europe.

I have now the pleasure of informing you that I have received offers for the sweep from Paris. Sheffield & Birmingham & that I have effected sales to Messrs Betts & Sons of Birmingham of 5 of the lots as follows,

By sales Silver sweep H. 1850. Lot. 1. say $\overset{\text{cwt.}}{99}\ \overset{\text{qr.}}{1}\ \overset{\text{lbs}}{17}$ @ 96 Shillings ꝑ Cwt. $\overset{\pounds}{477}$„ 2. 6

By sales Silver sweep F. 1850. Lot. 2. $\overset{\text{cwt.}}{25}\ \overset{\text{qr}}{1}.\ \overset{\text{lbs}}{27}$ @ 58 Shillings ꝑ Cwt. £ 73.. 18. 6

By sales Silver Sweep F. 1849. $\overset{\text{cwt}}{38}.\ \overset{\text{qrs}}{2}\ -\ \overset{\text{lbs}}{24}$ @ 80 Shillgs. pr Cwt. $\overset{\pounds}{154}$: 17. 2

By sales Worked silver grains B 1849 @ 717 Shillgs. ꝑ Cwt. ($\overset{\text{cwt}}{9}$„ $\overset{\text{qr}}{1}$„ $\overset{\text{lbs}}{10}$ —) £ 334„ 16. 3

By sales of gold sweep, 1849. D. 6 Cwt,, 1 qr, 25 lbs @ 152 Shillgs p cwt. £49,, 3.11.

The amount Ten hundred & eighty nine pounds Eighteen Shillings & four pence, is on deposite, partly with Messrs Baring brothers & Co London & in part at the L'pool Branch of the Bank of England. For the remaining three lots, you will see by the accompanying letter, that I have been offered much higher prices in Paris and accordingly they will be shipped, by an English Steamer, in a few days, to Havre, for which place, I shall at the same time, leave, in order to attend to them.

I sold the gold sweep, 1849. for a few Shillings less pr Cwt. than the Paris offer for the same the reason was, that Mess. Betts & Sons required five lots or none & as the gold sweep, 1849 was a very small lot & as their offer for the other lots, was much higher than that of Paris I consented.

The highest offers I have received, in England, for the three remaining lots are as follows.

Washed silver grains C. 1850. 400 Shillings pr Cwt.

Washd silver grains A 1848. 546 Shillgs pr Cwt.

Gold Sweep 1850. 200 Shillings pr Cwt.

One of the lots falls short in weight of the invoice

The aggregate net weight however exceeds the invoice weight, by more than 100 weight, as soon as the sales of the remaining three lots have been effected in Paris, the Nt. proceeds will be immediately remitted to you. by a Letter of Credit on Mess. Baring Bro. & Co of London.

Hoping that everything has been done to your satisfaction I have the honor to be,

Very Respectfully,
Yr obt. Servt.
(Signed) Jas W. Farnham.

P.S.

Upon returning the sweep to the barrels it was made to occupy considerably less space.

Copy of a letter from
Dr Jos. W Farnham.
Lrpool. Engd. Octr. 10th/57
to R. M. McAlpin
Inspr. U. S. Br. Mint. N. O.
touching Shipment of
Sweeps from sd. Mint to
England for sales & returns.

Mint of the United States,
Philada. 11 Sept. 1851.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communications of the 29th ult. & 2d inst., and the assay coins reserved during the past month.

With respect to the missing dies a further inquiry here confirms the account as to number & kinds, heretofore stated to you. The Engravers list, Mr. Eckfeldt's, & the receipt given by Mr. Duval, all state the number to have been 35 pairs. I must believe that, upon a re-examination, embracing an account of all the dies in your Mint, the missing pairs will be discovered.

Enclosed is my account, with that of my predecessor, covering the expenditures for your Mint during the past quarter, which I will thank you to present to Mr. De Buys.

Very respectfully
Your obdt. Servt.
G. N. Eckert
Director

Bills of lading, & accounts, of dies lately shipped, are herewith enclosed.

[illegible]

Sup. at New Orleans

11 Sept. 1857

Branch Mint New Orleans 20th Sep 1851

Sir,

Your's of the 11th inst. has been received. The account between this Mint & the former Director, the bills of lading, & accounts of Acid lately shipped, have been according to your instructions handed to the Treasurer.

I regret that I am unable to throw any light upon the subject of the missing half dime dies. The dies brought by the Coiner were after examination placed in the vault, where they have ever since remained. There were 33 pair instead of 35. They have been examined and compared over & over again, & the valise in which they were enclosed, has also been thoroughly examined. According to the testimony of Messrs. Brown & Palmer, than whom there are no two more reliable men, the division of the valise in which the dies were packed, was full — there was no unoccupied space. Mr Brown on removing the dies, observed that there were 32 pair, when Mr Devall stated, there must be another pair to make up the 33. It appears therefore, that although the Coiner signed a receipt for 35 pair in Philadelphia, he received them imprudently without counting them, & the impression on his mind from first to last was that he had but 33 pair in his possession.

I did not see the valise unpacked, not being aware of the fact, but when called to inspect them after they had been arranged on the counter, I can aver that I saw but 33 pair, & it was my firm conviction that Mr Devall was perfectly satisfied that he had brought them as he received them, and that he was under the impression that the 33 pair were all that he had received —

Very respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
Wm. P. Hort
Acting Supt.

Dr. G. N. Eckert
Director, U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

From

Acting Superintendent

New Orleans

Recd. 29 20 Sept. 57

Branch Mint
New Orleans 4th October 1851.

Sir

Enclosed you will receive a statement of the deposites of Gold and Silver bullion for the month of September 1851.

There was no delivery of coins during the month, and consequently there are no assay coins

very respectfully
Your obt. Servt.
Wm P. Hort
Acting Supt.

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia.

From
Actg Supt. at
N. Orleans

Recd. 13 4 Oct. 1881

87

A. M. McAlpin, Esq
New Orleans

4 Oct. 1851.

October 1851

Mint U.S. Phil: 10 Oct. 57

Sir,

[illegible] 1852 [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Mint of the United States
25 October 1851.

Sir,

I enclose two bills of lading for acid sent to your Mint.

The outstanding bills by Mr. Lennig for acids furnished to this date amount to $11,579.82, and exceed the means of payment in my hands by $10,234.23. You will see the necessity therefore of increasing your funds here.

I should wish to know what is about the supply of acid you require per month. Since the 1st of July 932 carboys have been sent to you. If this number is excessive perhaps the shipments may be reduced. The present time is, however, a favorable one for shipments, on account of low freights & other circumstances, so that it may be well, even if you have a surplus on hand to continue an accumulation for future use.

Very respectfully
your obt. servt.
G N Eckert
Director

R. M. McAlpin Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint N. O.

To
Sup. at
New Orleans

25 Oct. 57

Branch Mint New Orleans
Nov. 7th 1851

Sir

I enclose herewith statements of the Coinage and deposits at this Mint for the Month of October, also of the Coins reserved for assay during the same period,

The Coins will be forwarded by this days mail —

I have likewise enclosed the Coiners list of Dies required for this Mint in 1852. and memorandum of all the Dies on hand,

I can learn nothing of the missing Dies, Mr Devall is still confident that he never received them — and that you will yet find them in your Mint —

During my absence "as I directed" the new Boilers have been put up in the Yard an excellent piece of work — we have adopted a new style of Furnace pattented by Mr Armstrong — the Grate Bars are single and extend some three inches in advance of the Boiler front, which prevents clinkers and after a Months experience find that we save at least one fifth in fuel — Our

Engine has been taken down and rebuilt. The old Pump" worthless and continualy getting out of order causing delays and danger" detached and new one apart from the Engine put up at an expense of $300. Our Engine even now is not good, it has been in use nearly fifteen years, and certainly was not a very fine piece of workmanship originally— In our estimate of the amount required for this Mint for the next Fiscal year. I shall mention a new Engine Cost about $12.000—

Mr Divall thinks we will require another Coining Press, and wishes it mentioned as part of the requisition for his department. He will in a few days give you his reasons—

Our new and beautifull Engine for the Coining Department is being put up in the Coining Room and will be ready in a few days cost $1000— We have on hand $18.000 in Three Cent Coins, and although I mentioned it in all the City Papers our disbursement was scarcely $800. Eight Hundred Dollars— during the past Month, untill I hear from you ~~untill~~ I will make no more Coins. You will perceive by our statement that we made considerable small Coin last month. it was much needed.

Our receipts of Gold Dust in the last month is $500.000 — and I think we may reasonably calculate on large receipts soon —

Stock of Acid on hand 700 Carboys. Dr Brugano thinks it better to discontinue for about sixty days making shipments. I would suggest the shipments of 200 more then desist for the time mentioned —

I will first opportunity ship Lewis Hes 500. empty Carboys — our consumption of Acid is 150 to 175 Carboys per Month —

I enclose you Copy of letter from Dr J W Harmon in relation to the sale of our Gold and Silver Sweeps and grains. I think them highly satisfactory —

Very respectfully
Your Mo obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

From
Supt at New Orleans
7 Nov. 1851

Recd 17

November 1851

# Statement of Gold and Silver coins reserved for assaying at the Branch Mint of the United States, New-Orleans during the Month of October 1851.

| Date | | Deliveries. | deliveries | Pieces | Value | | Total Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1851 | | Gold | | | Dollars | Cts | Dollars | Cts |
| Octr. | 13 | Eagles | 15.000 | 15 | 150 | 00 | | |
| | 18 | Gold dollars | 10.000 | 10 | 10 | 00 | | |
| | 21 | Gold dollars | 40.000 | 40 | 40 | 00 | | |
| | 23 | Eagles | 12.000 | 12 | 120 | 00 | | |
| | 29 | Double Eagles | 5.500 | 5 | 100 | 00 | | |
| | " | Gold dollars | 20.000 | 20 | 20 | 00 | | |
| | 31 | Eagles | 18.000 | 18 | 180 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 620 | 00 |
| | | Silver | | | | | | |
| Oct | 28 | Half Dimes | 220.000 | 44 | 2 | 20 | | |
| | 31 | Half Dollars | 32.000 | 6 | 3 | 00 | | |
| | " | Quarter Dollars | 12.000 | 3 | | 75 | | |
| | " | Dimes | 80.000 | 16 | 1 | 60 | | |
| | | | | | | | 7 | 55 |
| | | Three Cent pieces | | | | | | |
| Oct | 31 | Three Cent pieces | 120.000 | 24 | " | 72 | | |
| | | | | | | | " | 72 |
| | | | | | | | 628 | 27 |

Branch Mint of the United States
New Orleans October 31st 1851

Wm. DeBuys Treasurer.
Wm. P. Hort Assayer.

# A Memorandum of All the Coining Dies at the New Orleans Branch of the United States Mint

| Denomination | Dies of 1850 reserved for use in Year 1851 | | Dies received in 1850 for use in Year 1851. | | Dies received (per A. Devall) (Coiner) Augt. 5th 1851. | | Total Dies reserved and received for use in Year 1851 | | Dies which have been used in Year 1851 | | Dies which have not been used this Year | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails |
| Double Eagle | — | 2 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 9 | 11 ✓ | 5 | 7 | 4 | 4 |
| Eagle | — | 9 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 14 ✓ | 3 | 6 | 4 | 8 |
| Half Eagle | — | 20 | 2 | — | 2 | 2 | 4 | 22 ✓ | 1 | 1 | 3 | 21 |
| Quarter Eagle | — | 12 | 4 | — | 4 | 4 | 8 | 16 ✓ | 1 | 1 | 7 | 15 |
| Gold Dollar | — | 5 | 4 | 4 | — | — | 4 | 9 ✓ | 2 | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| Silver Dollar | — | 11 | 4 | — | — | — | 4 | 11 ✓ | — | — | 4 | 11 |
| Half Dollar | — | 11 | 16 | 16 | 4 | 4 | 20 | 31 ✓ | 4 | 8 | 16 | 23 |
| Quarter Dollar | — | 14 | 4 | — | 3 | 3 | 7 | 17 ✓ | 1 | 1 | 6 | 16 |
| Dime | — | 8 | 6 | — | 6 | 6 | 12 | 14 ✓ | 1 | 1 | 11 | 13 |
| Half Dime | — | 7 | 6 | — | 4 | 4 | 10 | 11 ? | 2 | 2 | 8 | 9 |
| Three Cent | {Three par of Three Cent dies received in May 1851} | | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 7 | 7 ✓ | 4 | 3 | 3 | 4 |
| | — | 99 | 59 | 31 | 33 | 33 | 92 | 163 | 24 | 32 | 68 | 131 |

## Recapitulation

255
155

| | Heads | Tails |
|---|---|---|
| Total Dies reserved from 1850 for use in 1851 — | — | 99 |
| " " Received per (A. J. Wicks) in 1850 for 1851 including 3 pair 3 Cent Dies recd May 1851 | 59 | 31 |
| " " Received Augt 5th 1851 per A. Devall Coiner | 33 | 33 |
| Total — | 92 | 163 |
| Deduct total which have been used — | 24 | 32 |
| " Number which have not been used — | 68 | 131 |

U. S. Branch Mint
Coiner's Office Oct. 18th 1851

A. Devall
Coiner

U.S. Branch Mint N Orleans
Nov 8th 1851

Sir

I have delayed transmitting our estimate for the mint Fiscal Year that I might give the most ample time to all the Officers to fully digest the estimates made by them for their several departments—

I now take pleasure in enclosing the estimate of the ordinary expenses of this Mint for the Fiscal year beginning on the 1st July 1852 and ending 30th June 1853.

On reference you will find that in the estimate of Wastage of this Year we asked for only $6000.— and after carefull examination we find it will reach $20.000 this causes the deficit of $12.000—

Yours of 31st Octr is this minute to hand it will receive immediate attention—

Dr Bonzano requests you will forward for his department 2 Dozn India Rubber Gloves with fingers and two Dozn without fingers—

I enclose Mr Devalls reasons for asking for another Coining Press. which I respectfully call your attention to —

I will transmit you funds as much as we possibly can, the moment our requisition arrives.

In my last Letter to the Secy of Treasury I requested a Transfer of $\$3447.^{22}/_{100}$ "an old Balance standing ten years" to Cr of Ore Fund to be made to the Contingent Fund, and the Amount transmitted to you — I arranged the Matter with Mr Hodge asst Secty when in Washington — I hope you have rec$^{d}$ the Amount ere this —

Very respectfully
Your Mo Obt Servant
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

From

Supt at New Orleans

8 Nov. 1851

Recd 17

U. S. Branch Mint
Coiner's office
New Orleans, Novr. 8th 1852

Dr Sir,

You request me to furnish you with my reasons for putting in the Estimate of probable Expenses in my Dept. for the fiscal year Ending 30th June 1853, an item of $8.000 for a new Coining Press — I comply with that request and state, that we have no Coining Press of sufficient strength to coin Silver dollars with safety and as we will probably have considerable Silver Bullion on hand this winter, our means of consuming that Bullion will be limited, unless we procure another large Press; for all our presses for the larger denominations of Gold will most probably be in constant requisition and for the Smaller denominations of Gold and Silver, our adjusting force is so small and inadequate, that the public Clamor for "change" will have to be unanswered; I would state farther that if I can be allowed to Employ individuals for adjusting our Coins, independent of my present force, then I could do without any more presses – But not hoping that any such authority will be accorded me, I still think that a Coining Press is indispensable to the Efficiency of my dept –

Very respectfully
Your obdt. Servt.
A. Devall
Coiner

R. M. McAlpin Esqr
Superintendent

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Nov 13th 1851

Sir

In conformity with instructions in yours of Octr 31st I enclose herewith the originals received from the Assayer & Treasurer in answer to your query and demand — Uncertainty in regard to one of the deliveries is the reason I did not reply sooner. I enclose the Coins in a separate package, and will forward them by this days Mail —

The Treasurer is now making a form of a report whereby he may transmit you weekly a synopsis of the business of the Mint —

Very respectfully
Your most obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director of the
Mint
Philadelphia

From

Supt. at New Orleans

13 Nov 57

Recd. 20

461 (2920.80

Branch Mint of the U. States,
New Orleans, Novr. 11. 1851.

R. M. McAlpin, Esqr.
Supt. Branch Mint, N. O.

Sir,

In compliance with the request made by the Director of the Mint, in a recent letter to you, I have selected seven gold coins from so many deliveries by the Coiner of this Branch, which are sent herewith, that they may be forwarded to Philadelphia.— The following memorandum, will show the deliveries from which the coins were taken, as well as the amount charged in my account with the Director,

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Qr. Eagle, | from del: | 4.000. | Qr. Eagles, | Aug. 21. | 1851. | = $ | 2.50 |
| 1. Eagle | " " | 15.000. | Eagles, | Oct. 13. | " | = " | 10. " |
| 1. Eagle | " " | 12.000. | do. | " 23. | " | = " | 10. " |
| 1. Double Eagle | " " | 5.500. | Doub. Eas. | " 29. | " | = " | 20. " |
| 1. Gold dollar | " " | 20.000. | Gold dolls. | " 29. | " | = " | 1. " |
| 1. Eagle | " " | 18.000. | Eagles, | " 31. | " | = " | 10. " |
| 1. Gold dollar | " " | 20.000. | Gold dolls. | Nov. 10. | " | = " | 1. " |
| | | | | | | Total amount $ | 54.50 |

These coins are put up in separate packages, with the deliveries to which they correspond marked upon them.

Very respectfully,
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer.

Branch Mint N. O. 10th Novr. 1851.

Dear Sir,

You called my attention on Saturday the 8th inst, to a letter from the Director, Dr Eckert, in which it was stated that complaint had been made in London of loss on American gold coins. This is not the first time that such a complaint has been made in that part of the world.

The absolute title of American gold is 900 Milliemes, or 21 6/10 Carats. The value of one million of ounces at that title, is $ 18.604.651./00. But if the title of the gold is $899^{m}.5$, which is within legal limits, the assumed amount of gold would be worth $ 18.594.151 — making a difference on the million of ounces of $ 10.500 — Again $899^{m}$ is a legal title, which would make a difference of $ 10.175 — between the titles of $899^{m}.5$ and $899^{m}$ — and of $ 20.675 between $900^{m}$ and $899^{m}$.

The Melter & Refiner and myself are perfectly satisfied that the title of our gold coins for the year 1851, is $900^{m}$.

Besides the loss by title, there may be an additional loss by weight; the legal allowance on one million ~~dollars~~ ounces of gold might ~~amount~~ to 150 ounces, equal to $2790.69.

The absolute title of English gold is

~~m~~ ~~m~~
916 2/3, but the actual title is 915. 5.
In commercial operations in the U.S. Sovereigns are always estimated at the latter title, although Bankers, and Brokers, and the Mints may make a deduction for short weight. Loss of weight occurs ~~[illegible]~~ naturally from the ~~natural~~ necessary abrasion of the surface of the coins, but chiefly from the fraudulent practice of filing, boring, and clipping. To such an extent has this been carried in Great Britain, that the British Government has deemed it necessary on several occasions to call in all the gold in circulation for the purpose of recoinage. And may not the same operation in reference to American gold have been carried on by the identical persons who have from time to time debased the British currency?

When loss by weight occurs on Sovereigns in the United States, there may be some grumbling amongst interested parties, but never has an insinuation been uttered or written in the United States, implicating the Officers of the British Mint.

On one million ounces of gold, the total loss may be, although both title & weight are within legal limits, $23.465 —

The courtesy manifested by the Government of the U.S. towards Great Britain when their hard currency was a fair subject of complaint, has never to my knowledge been requited. Not a solitary occasion however escapes them, to cast some imputation on our Government, or on our people -

very respectfully
Your friend & Servt.
Wm P. Hort Assayer

Col R M McAlpin
Supt Br Mint N. O.

Mint of the United States
Philad^a. 17 Nov. 1851.

Sir;

The estimates from the New Orleans Branch Mint which were not received till this morning, are herewith enclosed. I hope they will reach you in time for transmission with those for the other Mints, heretofore forwarded to you.

Very respectfully
your obdt servt

Nathan Sargent, Esq
Register &c.

Director

FM N. Sargent
Register
Washington

17 Nov. 1851

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Nov 18th 185[illegible]

Sir

I now have the pleasure of transmitting the Treasurers Statement of the condition of the Bullion Fund, Coinage &c on the 15th Inst. This is the Statement I will report to you weekly, and if there is any other information you may desire shall be happy to give it you —

I would mention that our Scales are getting daily worse, and it is indispensable that the Treasurer and the Coiner should each have a new Scale. if you approve the requisition I would request that you have them made in your City similar to those used in your Mint —

Most respectfully
Your very obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director of the
Mint
Philadelphia

From

Supt at New Orleans

Recd 27

18 Nov. 51

# Report of the condition of the bullion fund, coinage, bullion in process of coinage, and amount of coin on hand, at the Branch Mint New Orleans, for the week ending 15th. November 1851.

---

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount coined during the week, Gold | $ 20.000. | |
| Silver | " 20.000. | $ 40.000. 00 |
| Payments to depositors of gold bullion | | " 137.449. 62 |
| Outstanding Certificates not presented for payment, but payable on demand | | " 324.863. 42 |
| Assayed bullion belonging to the bullion fund, and in process of coinage, viz: Gold | $ 969.612. 65. | |
| Silver | " 129.298. 43 | " 1.098.911. 08 |
| Gold bullion not yet assayed, valued at about | | " 1.655. 00 |
| Amount of coin belonging to the bullion fund, and applicable to the payment of outstanding certificates and new deposits, viz: | | |
| Gold coins | $ 380.202.91 | |
| Silver coins, of which $16.000. in 3. cent pieces | " 97.319. 15 | " 477.522.06 |

---

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office Nov. 15. 1851.
Wm. De Buys Treasurer

Mint of the United States
Philada 21 Nov. 1857.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your communications of the 7th 8th & 13th insts, with accompanying reports, estimates &c. & the reserved assay & other coins.

The requisition for gloves will be attended to, and instructions given as to the future supply of acid.

A draft for your account, for $3447.22 has been received, & the proceeds will be applied to payment of your contingent expenses here. The No. of draft is 790 on Try warr't 5784.

The dies conformably to your list are prepared, & we shall at an early day commence forwarding them by mail.

Enclosed are bills of lading for acids shipped. Their remittance at the time of shipment was overlooked; but I trust no inconvenience has resulted.

At the close of the year please have forwarded a statement of the total deposits & coinage, in the form of the monthly report; distinguishing the sources of U.S. bullion.

R. M. McAlpin, Esq
Supt B. Mint &c.

very respectfully &c.
Robert Patterson
for the Director

T/1

Sup. at N. Orleans

21 Nov. 1857.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Nov 22d 1851

Sir

Enclosed please find Draft of the Bank of Louisiana #883 dated this day for Five Thousand Dollars on the Merchants Bank of New York – which please place to Cr of this Mint –

Sundry repairs, new Machinery the large quantity of Acid "six or eight months supply" all combine to reduce our Contingent fund. I therefore am unable at present to forward you any more funds. I trust Mess Lennig & Co will not object to wait a short time –

Freight is very high "75¢ each" or I would ship Mess Lennig & Co 800 Empty Carboys –

As we pay depositors the full amt in Gold Coin our silver Coin in the Mint Vault have increased to over $100.000 – Col Drennen the Indian Agent has Drafts for $1.700.000 and says he must have at least $100.000 in Silver Coins as many of his payments are in fractions of a Dollar. In as much as we would probably have to pay this silver to Gold Depositors and the

Treasurer Mr DeBuys was anxious to get $50,000 for the Sub Treasury, "The Mint losing nothing" I have authorised the exchange of said $50,000 Silver Coins for Gold Coins. all of which I trust will meet your approval —

Most respectfully
Your my obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G N Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

From
Sup. at N. Orleans

Recd Dec 1/ 22 Nov. '57

December 1857

Mint of the United States
Philada. 25 Sept. 1851

Sir,

I enclose, herewith, a bill of lading for acid shipped to you. With this invoice the supply will be discontinued or greatly diminished till your present stock has become reduced. You will please, however, give ample notice of your future wants.

With reference to your empty carboys, Mr. Denning suggests that, as freights are very much less at the season when the cotton shipments begin to slacken, it would be more economical to you to suspend for the present returning the carboys.

Very respectfully &c
Robert Patterson
for the Director

To

Sup. at N. Orleans

25 Nov. 1851.

[illegible]

[illegible]

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Nov 28th 1851

Sir

I have this minute received from the Treasurer the report of the Condition of our Bullion Fund on the 22d Inst. and herewith enclose the same to you —

I am as yet unable to ship the Empty Carboys

Most respy
Your obt servant
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

From
R M McAlpin Esqr
N. Orleans

Recd. Dec. 8 28 Nov. 1807

# Report of the condition of the bullion fund, coinage, bullion in process of coinage, and amount of coin on hand, at the Branch Mint New Orleans, for the week ending 22d November 1851.

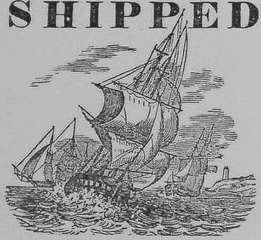
---

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount coined during the week, Gold | $210.000.– | |
| Silver | " 10.000.– | $220.000.00 |
| Payments to depositors of gold bullion | | " 299.988.22 |
| Outstanding certificates not presented for payment, but payable on demand | | " 74.727.90 |
| Assayed bullion belonging to the bullion fund, and in process of coinage, viz: Gold | $1.116.896.22 | |
| Silver | 127.111.12 | " 1.144.007.34 |
| Gold bullion not yet assayed, valued at about | | " 60.649.75 |
| Amount of coin belonging to the bullion fund, and applicable to the payment of outstanding certificates and new deposites, viz: | | |
| Gold coins | $289.994.69 | |
| Silver coins, of which $16.000.– in 3 cent pieces | " 106.711.21 | " 396.705.90 |

---

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, Nov. 22, 1851.
Wm. DiBuys
Treasurer.

**SHIPPED** in good order and well conditioned, by the **TREASURER OF THE MINT**, in and upon the good Sch. Edwin S. James whereof is Master for this present voyage, Capt. Westcott and now in the River Delaware, and bound for New Orleans.



MAURICE, STATIONER, PHILADA.

$100

Br. Mint

New Orleans

One Keg cents ($100)

Being marked and numbered as in the margin; and to be delivered in the like good order and well conditioned, at the aforesaid Port of New Orleans (the danger of the Seas only excepted,) unto the U.S. Branch Mint or to — Assigns, ~~he or they paying~~ Freight for the said Goods. paid here.

One Dollar & 75 cents

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Master or Purser of said Sch. hath affirmed to three Bills of Lading, all of this tenor and date; one of which being accomplished, the others to stand void.

Contents unknown

**Philadelphia,** Nov. 29. 1851. for the Capt.

C Petter

47

Bill Lading given
to Robt. Patterson.

U S Branch Mint
New Orleans Dec 5th 1857

Sir

I enclose monthly statements of the Deposits and Coinage at this Mint, during the month of November, also with this the Coins received for assay during the same period. The Coins will be forwarded by this day's mail.

Our weekly statements has been delayed in consequence of the sickness of Mr Wilkes.

Your direction in regard to the Annual report shall be attended to—

I note your remarks relative to Empty Carboys; prior to receiving your favor I had engaged the freight for Five Hundred on the Brig J. Cohen at fifty cents each— I would remark that as the Carboys are exposed to the weather in the yard "Twenty five cents is the best offer here for them" a great many of them would become worthless ere freights are reduced, and disagree with Mr Lewis, believing it more economical to ship even at this freight than to wait till Spring— I will ship no more till further orders —

I enclose a Copy of a letter rec'd from the Coiner, to which I beg leave to call your attention — The principal object is to ascertain to what account the wastage in refining &c shall be charged —

Most respectfully
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G N Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

From

Sup. at N. Orleans

5 Dec

Rd. 13

Copy

United States Branch Mint New Orleans
Coiners Office Nov.r 28th. 1851.

Dear Sir

I find in my Vault a considerable amount of unavailable Bullion, in the form of "Mixed Bullion", from Sweep filings &c amounting in all as follows — of Gold 470.$\frac{75}{100}$ ounces. — of Silver 2.385.$\frac{43}{100}$ ounces — which I desire to transfer to the Treasurer as they are totally useless to my Department, and therefore augment my Quarterly & Yearly balances, and increase my responsibility which is already very great. — The Bullion above referred to, has been accumulating since the Year 1846, from the Sweep of the Coining Department, and has been handed down from one Coiner, to his successor up to the present time. I received it from Genl. DeBuys our present Treasurer on the 20th. January last, and in order to simplify my yearly accounts I am desirous of making the transfer before the Yearly Settlement takes place. — You will be pleased to inform me what course I am to pursue, as I am unwilling to lose anything by any valuation to be fixed upon them different from that by which I received them from the Treasurer —

The different pieces composing the Bullion alluded to, have all been from time to time, Marked with the dates and weights and Nominal Value, and can easily be identified.

Your early attention to this matter

will very much oblige

Yours with great respect.

A. Devall
Coiner

R. M. McAlpin Esqr
Superintendent
U. S. B. Mint
New Orleans

# Statement of Gold and Silver Coins Reserved for assaying at the Branch Mint of the United States, New-Orleans during the Month of November 1851.

| Date | | Deliveries | deliveries | Pieces | Value | | Total Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1851 | | Gold. | | | Dollars | Cts | Dollars | Cts |
| Novr | 10 | Gold Dollars | 20.000 | 20 | 20 | 00 | | |
| | 18 | Gold Dollars | 50.000 | 50 | 50 | 00 | | |
| | 21 | Eagles | 6.000 | 6 | 60 | 00 | | |
| | 22 | Eagles | 10.000 | 10 | 100 | 00 | | |
| | 26 | Double Eagles | 4.000 | 4 | 80 | 00 | | |
| | 27 | Eagles | 6.000 | 6 | 60 | 00 | | |
| | 29 | Double Eagles | 3.500 | 3 | 60 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 430 | 00 |
| | | Silver | | | | | | |
| Novr | 7 | Half Dollars | 36.000 | 7 | 3 | 50 | | |
| | 13 | Half Dollars | 16.000 | 3 | 1 | 50 | | |
| | " | Half Dimes | 40.000 | 8 | | 40 | | |
| | 15 | Half Dollars | 20.000 | 4 | 2 | 00 | | |
| | 22 | Half Dollars | 20.000 | 4 | 2 | 00 | | |
| | 26 | Half Dollars | 16.000 | 4 | 2 | 00 | | |
| | 29 | Quarter Dollars | 36.000 | 7 | 1 | 75 | | |
| | " | Dimes | 10.000 | 2 | | 20 | | |
| | | | | | | | 13 | 35 |
| | | | | | | | $ 443 | 35 |

Branch Mint of the U. States
New-Orleans November 30th 1851

Wm. D. Boys
Treasurer

Wm. P. Hort
Assayer.

# Report of the Treasurer of the Branch Mint, New Orleans, for the week ending 29d November 1857.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount coined during the week, Gold | $210.000.- | |
| Silver | 18.000.- | $228.000.00 |
| Payments to depositors of Gold bullion | | " 509.611.11 |
| Outstanding Certificates not presented for payment, but payable on demand | | " 336.451.52 |
| Assayed bullion belonging to the bullion fund, and in process of coinage, viz: Gold | $942.302.42 | |
| Silver | " 92.054.16 | " 1.034.356.58 |
| Amount of coin belonging to the bullion fund, and applicable to the payment of outstanding certificates and new deposits, viz: | | |
| Gold coins | $257.847.63 | |
| Silver, of which $16.000. 3 cent ps. | " 124.707.26 | " 382.554.89 |

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, Nov. 29. 1857.
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

U.S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Dec 13th 1851

Sir

I enclose herewith statement for the week ending 6th Inst. it would have been transmitted sooner but this has been the busiest week ever experienced in this Mint. Coinage over $500,000 and in last nine days we have received Two Hundred and sixty three deposits "of course mostly small" amounting in the aggregate to Oz 34.000 Gold Dust —

I beg leave to acknowledge the recpt of yours of 3d Inst with New Head Dbl Eagle and New Head Hlf Dollar Dies —

Most respectfully
Your mo obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt at N. Orleans

13 Dec. 1851

Recd 24

# Report of the Treasurer of the Branch Mint, New Orleans, for the week ending 6th. December 1851.

---

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount coined during the week, Gold | | $ 80.000. 00 |
| Payments to depositors of Gold bullion | | " 223.393. 22 |
| Outstanding Certificates not presented for payment, but payable on demand | | " 483.000. 00 |
| Assayed bullion belonging to the bullion fund, and in process of coinage, Gold | $1.016.855. 41 | |
| Silver | " 114.371. 34 | " 1.131.226. 75 |
| Gold bullion not yet assayed, valued at | | " 217.930. 00 |
| Amount of coin belonging to the bullion fund, and applicable to the payment of outstanding Certificates and new deposits, viz: | | |
| Gold coins | $111.667. 41 | |
| Silver, of which $16.000.– 3 ct. ps. | " 122.966. 67 | " 234.634. 08 |

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, Decr. 6. 1851.

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer.

Mint of the United States
Philada. 16 Dec. 1857.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your report for November, with the assay coins reserved.

The gold coins sent for assay from your Mint all proved to be within 1 m. of the legal standard, above & below, which is agreeable to the rule observed here, and to the results attained from the specimens of the other Branches.

In the communication received from you, with those coins there was no statement, such as I desire, of the reported fineness of the melts of ingots passed by the Assayer during the present year. I will be obliged to you to furnish such a statement, at your convenience.

A bill of lading for acids is enclosed. With this shipment the supply from here will be temporarily suspended. Please give timely notice (say 6 weeks) of any new demand.

I enclose my account of receipts & expenditures for the quarter ending 30 Sept., which I will thank you to hand to the Treasurer, since that dated have received $500 on draft & $54.50 in coin, and disbursed $4608.90.

The following dies for 1852 have been mailed to you, viz. 4 pair ½ dolls, boxes 2,3,4,5; 2 pr. ¼ dolls, boxes 8 & 9; 2 pr dimes boxes 10 & 11; 3 pr. d.eagles, boxes 22,23 & 24; 2 pr. eagles, boxes 27 & 28; 1 pr ½ eagles, box 30; 1 pr. ¼ E. box 31; 1 pr. g. dolls box 34. To day are mailed 2 pr. ½ dimes nos. 13 & 14, 1 pr. eagles box 29, & 1 pr. gold dollars box 35

You will notice that the price now charged for parting acid has been reduced to 7⅛ cents.

Your weekly statements are in a satisfactory form. If, however, it is equally convenient I should prefer to have them in the form annexed, which is that adopted in our own Reports.

Very respectfully
Your obdt Servt

Director

R. M. McAlpin Esq
Supt B. M.
New Orleans.

### Coinage Gold

~~374.464.~~
~~394.482.~~

374.464. ✓
270.400. ✓
244.800. ✓
208.000. ✓
44.731. ✓

1.142.395.

### Payment Gold

156.838.73 ✓
394.482.13 ✓
199.989.69 ✓
244.434.24 ✓
191.696.32 ✓
51.311.78

1.238.752.89

### Coinage Silver

8.000 ✓

### Payment Silver

2.754.14 ✓
1169.72 ✓
1000.71 ✓
1098.82

6.023.39

To

Supt at N. Orleans

11 Dec 1857.

[illegible]

Mint of the United States
Philada 17 Dec 1851

Sir,

With reference to the inquiry made by Mr. Sewall relative to the mixed bullion from filings, his course, it would be, to redeliver the same to the Treasurer at the end of the year, receiving credit for the bullion contained according to the Assayer's report. Such bullion is then to be redelivered to the Melter & Refiner at the same valuation, and treated as other mixed metals received by him.

Very respectfully
your obt servt

G. N. Eckert
Director.

I will thank you not to neglect, at the close of the year, an annual report of coinage & deposits, distinguishing the sources whence derived, & the States in case of U.S. Bullion; also a statement of any coins wanted.

S7

Sup. at N. Orleans

17 Dec. 1851

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Dec 18th/187

Sir

I transmit herewith the weekly report for the week ending on 13th Inst.

I have also to acknowledge the receipt by Mail of

2. Two Eagle Head Dies
2. Two Hlf Eagle Head Dies
2. Two Qur Eagle Head Dies
2. Two Hlf Dollar Head Dies
2. Two Gold Dollar Head Dies
2. Two Dime Dies

To make our annual settlement it will require a suspension of about ten days to commence between 20th & 25th

Most respy
Your very Obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin

Dr Geo. N. Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

From

Cons. at N. Orleans

18 Dec. 1851.

Recd. 27

# Report of the Treasurer of the Branch Mint, New Orleans, for the week ending 13th December 1851.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amount coined during the week, Gold | $490.000.– | |
| Silver | 8.000.– | $498.000. 00 |
| Payments to depositors of gold bullion | | " 254.252. 88 |
| Outstanding Certificates not presented for payment, but payable on demand | | " 319.494. 09 |
| Assayed bullion belonging to the bullion fund, and in process of coinage, Gold | $845.523.09 | |
| Silver | " 106.698.68 | " 952.221. 77 |
| Gold bullion not yet assayed, valued at | | " 192.214. 41 |
| Amount of coin belonging to the bullion fund, and applicable to the payment of outstanding Certificates and new deposits, viz: | | |
| Gold coins | $346.126.07 | |
| Silver, of which $16.000. 3 ct. ps. | " 121.010.89 | " 467.136.96 |

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, Decr 13. 1851.
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Dec 30th 1857

Sir

Agreeably to your request I enclose the weekly report of the condition of this Mint for the week ending 27th Inst in form as suggested.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of
2. Two Silver Dollar Head Dies
2. Two Hlf Dollar Head Dies
4. Four Hlf Dime Head Dies
2. Two Eagle Head Dies
on the 26th Inst, and on the 29th of
2. Two Hlf Dollar Head Dies
2. Two Dime Head Dies.
2. Two Gold Dollar Head Dies

I will give my immediate attention to the report from the assayer of the reported fineness of the Melts of Ingots

Most respy
Your my obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

Sup. at N. Orleans

30 Dec 1851

Recd Jan. 8/52

Statement of the condition of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, at the close of the week ending Dec.r 27. 1857.

---

## Coinage account Dr.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last statement | | $ 267.236. 79 |
| Add, coinage since received, viz: Gold | $ 655.000.00 | |
| Silver | " 6.000.00 | " 661.000. 00 |
| Total means for the week | | $ 928.236. 79 |

## Contra Cr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposits paid during the week | $ 38.835. 94 |
| Assay coins reserved | " 661. 20 |
| Balance on hand | " 888.739. 65 |
| | $ 928.236. 79 |

---

## Bullion account Dr.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Outstanding deposits assayed, and payable, but not demanded | Gold | $ 366.186.76 | |
| | Silver | " 1.422.65 | $ 367.609. 41 |
| Estimate of deposits remaining unassayed or uncalculated | Gold | $ 377.549.24 | |
| | Silver | " 1.754.58 | " 379.303. 82 |
| Estimated bullion to be accounted for to private depositors | | | $ 746.913. 23 |
| Add, debt to U. States for Bullion fund | | | " 1.100.000. 00 |
| Total debt on Bullion account | | | $ 1.846.913. 23 |
| Deduct balance of coin in Treasury, as above | | | " 888.739. 65 |
| Difference, being total bullion in course of manufacture | | | $ 958.173. 58 |

U. S. Br. Mint, New Orleans, Treasurer's Office, Dec.r 27. 1857.

Wm. D. Briggs

Treasurer.

# Coiner's account of Bullion

| | | | Ounces | dec. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1851<br>Decr. 31. | Gold, Dr. | | 1.187.722 | 260 |
| | Cr. | | 1.186.203 | 220 |
| | Balance | | 1.519 | 040 |
| | Bullion weighed | Oz. 1023.519 | | |
| | In Sweep | " 166.280 | | |
| | Wastage | " 329.241 | 1.519 | 040 |
| 1851<br>Decr. 31 | Silver, Dr. | | 773.508 | 20 |
| | Cr. | | 760.354 | 07 |
| | Balance | | 13.154 | 13 |
| | Bullion weighed | Oz. 12329.18 | | |
| | In Sweep | " 752.80 | | |
| | Wastage | " 72.15 | 13.154 | 13 |

Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, December 31. 1851.

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

# Melter & Refiner's account of Bullion

| | | | Ounces | dec |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1851<br>Decr. 31. | Gold, Dr. | | 1.188.247 | 070 |
| | Cr. | | 1.186.434 | 110 |
| | Balance | | 1.812 | 960 |
| | Bullion weighed | Oz. 831.432 | | |
| | In Sweep | " 641.437 | | |
| | Wastage | " 340.091 | 1.812 | 960 |
| 1851<br>Decr. 31. | Silver, Dr. | | 839.034 | 77 |
| | Cr. | | 766.680 | 89 |
| | Balance | | 72.353 | 88 |
| | Bullion weighed | Oz. 49.853.13 | | |
| | Silver used for alloy | " 11.602.63 | | |
| | In sweep | " 10.633.03 | | |
| | Wastage | " 265.09 | 72.353 | 88 |

Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, December 31. 1851.
Wm. DeBuys Treasurer

# Coiner's account of Bullion

| | | | Ounces | dec |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1851<br>Decr. 31. | Gold, Dr. | | 1.187.722 | 260 |
| | Cr. | | 1.186.203 | 220 |
| | Balance | | 1.519 | 040 |
| | Bullion weighed | Oz. 1023.519 | | |
| | In Sweep | " 166.280 | | |
| | Wastage | " 329.241 | 1.519 | 040 |
| 1851<br>Decr. 31 | Silver, Dr. | | 773.508 | 20 |
| | Cr. | | 760.354 | 07 |
| | Balance | | 13.154 | 13 |
| | Bullion weighed | Oz. 12329.18 | | |
| | In Sweep | " 752.80 | | |
| | Wastage | " 72.15 | 13.154 | 13 |

Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, December 31. 1851.
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

# Statement of the Deposites and Coinage at the Branch Mint, New Orleans, during the year 1851.

## Deposites

| Description of Bullion | Standard Weight | | Value | | Total value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Ounces | dec | Dollars | cts | Dollars | cts |
| Gold, | | | | | | |
| U. S. Coins, old Standard | 9 | 400 | 174 | 89 | | |
| Foreign Coins | 7.983 | 256 | 148.525 | 69 | | |
| U. S. Bullion, (California) | 471.370 | 432 | 8.769.682 | 46 | | |
| U. S. Bullion, other sources | 55 | 888 | 1.039 | 78 | | |
| Total U. S. Bullion 8,770,722.24 | | | | | | |
| Foreign Bullion | 464 | 276 | 8.637 | 69 | | |
| | 479.883 | 252 | | | 8.928.060 | 51 |
| Silver, | | | | | | |
| Foreign Coins | 53.969 | 77 | 62.801 | 18 | | |
| Foreign Bullion | 62.870 | 87 | 73.158 | 83 | | |
| U. States Bullion (Cala.) | 52.078 | 59 | 60.600 | 54 | | |
| | | | | | 196.560 | 55 |
| Total deposites | | | | | 9.124.621 | 06 |

## Coinage

| Denomination | Number of pieces | Value | | Total value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Dollars | cts | Dollars | cts |
| Gold, | | | | | |
| Double Eagles | 315.000 | 6.300.000 | " | | |
| Eagles | 263.000 | 2.630.000 | " | | |
| Half Eagles | 41.000 | 205.000 | " | | |
| Quarter Eagles | 148.000 | 370.000 | " | | |
| Gold Dollars | 290.000 | 290.000 | " | | |
| | 1.057.000 | | | 9.795.000 | 00 |
| Silver, | | | | | |
| Half Dollars | 402.000 | 201.000 | " | | |
| Quarter Dollars | 88.000 | 22.000 | " | | |
| Dimes | 400.000 | 40.000 | " | | |
| Half Dimes | 860.000 | 43.000 | " | | |
| Three cent pieces | 720.000 | 21.600 | " | | |
| | 2.470.000 | | | 327.600 | 00 |
| Total Coinage | 3.527.000<br>pieces | | | 10.122.600<br>value | 00 |

Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, December 31. 1851.
Wm. P. Kemp Treasurer

New Orleans — 1851.

U.S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Decr 22nd 1857

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt on the 20th Inst of

2. Two Dble Eagle Head Dies
2. Two Eagle Head Dies
2. Two Gold Dollar Head Dies
2. Two Hlf Dollar Head Dies

and also this morning of

2. Two Qr Dollar Head Dies
2. Two Dime Head Dies —

I also have the honor of enclosing the weekly report, for the week ending 20th Inst —

Most respectfully
Yr my obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Bn McAlpin, Esqr
New Orleans
22 Dec. 1851

Recd. 2 Jany 1852

January 1852

# Report of the Treasurer of the Branch Mint, New Orleans, for the week ending 20th December 1851.

---

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Payments to depositors of Gold bullion | | $ 199.448. 35 |
| Outstanding certificates not presented for payment, but payable on demand | | " 347.454. 12 |
| Assayed bullion belonging to the bullion fund, and in process of coinage, Gold | $1.070.604. 35 | |
| Silver | " 113.449. 65 | " 1.184.054. 00 |
| Gold bullion not yet assayed, valued at | | " 8.771. 00 |
| Amount of coin belonging to the bullion fund, and applicable to the payment of outstanding Certificates and new deposits, viz: | | |
| Gold coins | $ 147.677. 72 | |
| Silver, of which $16.000. 3 ct ps. | " 120.559. 07 | " 268.236. 79 |

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, Decr. 20. 1851.

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer.

# Statement of Gold and Silver Coins reserved for assaying at the Br. Mint of the United States, New Orleans during the Month of December 1851

| Date | | Deliveries | Deliveries | Pieces | Value | | Total Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1851 | | Gold | | | Dollars | Cts. | Dollars | Cts. |
| Decr. | 6 | Double Eagles | 2000 | 2 | 40 | 00 | | |
| | " | Half Eagles | 8.000 | 8 | 40 | 00 | | |
| | 8 | Double Eagles | 4.000 | 4 | 80 | 00 | | |
| | 9 | Quarter Eagles | 16.000 | 16 | 40 | 00 | | |
| | 13 | Double Eagles | 18.500 | 19 | 380 | 00 | | |
| | 26 | Double Eagles | 32750 | 33 | 660 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 1240 | 00 |
| | | Silver | | | | | | |
| Decr. | 13 | Dimes | 80.000 | 16 | 1 | 60 | | |
| | 27 | Half Dimes | 120.000 | 24 | 1 | 20 | | |
| | | | | | | | 2 | 80 |
| | | | | | | $ | 1.242 | 80 |

Branch Mint of the U. States
New Orleans December 31st 1851

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Wm. P. Hort
Assayer

NEW ORLEANS, 1852

Enclose the Silver report

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Jany 6th 1857

Sir

I have to acknowledge since my last, the receipt of Dies, viz

6. Six Star Dies for Three Cents Pieces
4. Four Tail Dies for Ditto
2. Two Hlf Dime Head Dies
4. Four Dble Eagle Tail Dies
4. Four Qr Eagle Head Dies
2. Two Head Gold Dollar Dies &
6. Six Tail Gold Dollar Dies.

I also have the honor to enclose the assayers report of the fineness of all the Melts of Gold Ingots for the year 1856. and only just perceive that you want Silver report as well, I will transmit it tomorrow. We resumed work in all the Departments yesterday —

Most respectfully
Your mo obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supt.

Dr G N Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

1

From

A. M. McAlpin

N. Orleans

Recd. 16 6 Jan. 1852

U.S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Jany 15th 1852

Sir

I herewith transmit sundry statements.

1st Statement of the Deposits and Coinage at this Branch Mint for the Month of Decr 1851. also of Coins reserved for assay during the same period. The Coins will be forwarded by this days Mail.

2d Statement of the condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending 10th Inst. No business was done during the previous week.

3d Statement of the Coins reserved for assay at this Branch Mint during the year Eighteen Hundred and fifty one.

4th Statement of the Deposits and Coinage at this Branch Mint during the past year. showing the sources from whence the Bullion was derived.

5th Statement of the total number of Coining Dies for the Year 1851. The number cancelled, and the number reserved for use during the present Year.

6th Statement of the Melter and Refiners account of Bullion and the Coiners account of Bullion. I send the Coiners receipt for all the Coining Dies asked for this year. The Coiner thinks we will not require any more than the number received.

I send by this days Mail samples of the Melter and Refiners and the Coiners sweeps for the past year. Two packages of the Melters and one of the Coiners.

It will I presume unnecessary for me to remit any more funds, in as much as our assay Coins for the year 1857 will soon be assayed and the Amt passed to our Credit on your Books. If not contrary to your regulation I should like to know the wastage of your Melter & Refiner. Dr Bonzano particularly requests it.

Most respectfully
Your very obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

From
Desp. at New Orleans
15 Jan 1882

Recd 27th.

## Statement of the condition of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, at the close of the week ending January 10. 1852

### Coinage account Dr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last Statement | $ 888.739. 65 |
| Total means for the week | $ 888.739. 65 |

### Contra Cr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposites paid during the week | $ 357.707. 71 |
| Treasury Draft No. 1526. on War Warrt. No. 5767. fav. Lt. Col. A. J. Coffee, Pay Mr. on Bullion account | " 140.000. 00 |
| Balance on hand | " 391.031. 94 |
| | $ 888.739. 65 |

### Bullion account Dr.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Outstanding deposites assayed, and payable, but not demanded | Gold $437.182. 72<br>Silver " 3.901. 73 | $ 441.084. 45 |
| Estimate of deposites remaining unassayed or uncalculated | Gold $246.591. 97<br>Silver 1.761. 57 | " 248.353. 54 |
| Estimated bullion to be accounted for to private dep: | | $ 689.437. 99 |
| Add, debt to U. States for Bullion fund | | " 960.000. 00 |
| Total debt on Bullion account | | $1.649.437. 99 |
| Deduct, balance of coin in Treasury as above | | " 391.031. 94 |
| Difference, being total bullion in course of manufacture | | $1.258.406. 05 |

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans January 10. 1852.

Wm. De Buys Treasurer

Copy.

Branch Mint, New Orleans.
Decemb 31st 1851.

Sir.

Up to the present time, 502 melts of gold ingots have been assayed since the 1st of January 1851. The following is the result.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 390 | Melts. | 900th. |
| 56 | — " — | 900. 5 |
| 9 | — " — | 901. |
| 12 | — " — | 899. 5 |
| 35 | — " — | Condem'd |

The general average should therefore be rather above 900th.

Respectfully

(Signed.) Wm. P. Hort
Assayer.

Col. R. M. McAlpin.
Supt. Branch Mint
New Orleans.

Copy

Branch Mint,
New Orleans. 6th Jany. 1851

Sir.

I Send you here with a statement of the titles of our Silver Ingots for the Year 1851.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | M |
| 65 | melts | @ | 898. |
| 150 | " | " | 898.$^{6}$ |
| 70 | " | " | 899. |
| 25 | " | " | 899.$^{5}$ |
| 59 | " | " | 900. |
| 22 | " | " | 901. |
| 2 | " | " | 901.$^{5}$ |
| 21 | " | " | 902. |

414 — passed.
82 — consumd.
Total 496 Melts for the year

Respectfully
Signed.
Wm P. Hort.
Assayer

Robt McAlpin Esq
Supt. Br. Mint. N.O.

# Statement of the Coins Reserved for Assay. at the Branch Mint, New Orleans, during the year 1851.

| | Doub. Eagles | Eagles | Half Eagles | Quarter Eagles | Gold Dollars | Half Dolls | Quar. Dolls | Dimes | Half Dimes | Three Cent Coins | Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Months | Pieces | Pieces | Pieces | Pieces | Pieces | Pieces | Pieces | Pieces | Pieces | Pieces | Dollars | Cts |
| January | 25 | | | | | 30 | | | | | 515 | 00 |
| February | 46 | 5 | | | | 12 | | | 5 | | 976 | 25 |
| March | 72 | 35 | 29 | 28 | | | | | | | 2.005 | 00 |
| April | 5 | 27 | 4 | 48 | 80 | | | 14 | 44 | | 593 | 60 |
| May | 49 | 14 | | 28 | | 8 | | 16 | 32 | | 1.197 | 20 |
| June | 31 | 37 | | 24 | 40 | | | 16 | 16 | 30 | 1.093 | 30 |
| July | 12 | 33 | | | 20 | | 8 | | | 90 | 594 | 70 |
| August | 3 | 46 | | 4 | 10 | 2 | | | | | 541 | 00 |
| September | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| October | 5 | 45 | | | 70 | 6 | 3 | 16 | 44 | 24 | 628 | 27 |
| November | 7 | 22 | | | 70 | 22 | 7 | 2 | 8 | | 443 | 35 |
| December | 58 | | 8 | 16 | | | | 16 | 24 | | 1.242 | 80 |
| | 313 | 214 | 41 | 148 | 290 | 80 | 18 | 80 | 173 | 144 | 9.830 | 47 |

Branch Mint of the U States. New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office, December 31st 1851.

Wm. P. Buys Treasurer.

40.
4.50
8.00
8.65
4.32
65.47
8.184
1.023
9.207
56.263
5.12
4.09
65.48

1.60
1.20
2.80

3.75
1.60
2.20
.72
.27

11
1.75
.20
.40
13.35

1440
350
145
70
2005

100
270
20
120
80
590

980
140
70
1190

620
370
60
40
1090

240
330
20
590

60
460
10
10
540

100
450
70
620

140
220
70
430

1160
40
40
1240

6260
2640
205
370
290
9765
488.25
244.125
122.0625
524.86875

So/

Supt at N. Orleans

15 Jan 1852

# Statement of the condition of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, at the close of the week ending January 17. 1852.

## Coinage Account Dr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last Statement | $ 391.031. 94 |
| Add, coinage since received in gold coins | " 145.000. 00 |
| Total means for the week | $ 536.031. 94 |

## Contra Cr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposits paid during the week | $ 13.630. 90 |
| Assay coins reserved | " 140. 00 |
| Transferred to Ordinary fund | " 8.880. 13 |
| Balance on hand | " 513.380. 91 |
| | $ 536.031. 94 |

## Bullion Account Dr.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Outstanding deposits assayed and payable, but not demanded | Gold | $700.265. 73 | |
| | Silver | " 3.603. 07 | $ 703.868. 80 |
| Estimate of deposits remaining unassayed or uncalculated | Gold | $ 10.559. 15 | |
| | Silver | " 442. 58 | " 11.001. 73 |
| Estimated bullion to be accounted for to private dep: | | | $ 714.870. 53 |
| Add, debt to U. States for Bullion fund | | | " 960.000. 00 |
| Total debt on Bullion account | | | $1.674.870. 53 |
| Deduct, balance of coin in Treasury, as above | | | " 513.380. 91 |
| Difference, being total bullion in course of manufacture | | | $1.161.489. 62 |

U.S. Branch Mint, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office, Jany. 17. 1852. Wm. DeBuys Treasurer

New Orleans
Br Mint –

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Jany 27th 1852

Sir

Enclosed please find Statement of the condition of the Mint for the week ending 24th Inst.

Your favor relating to the roof of the Mint Building &c is just to hand and shall have immediate attention.

I continue to make shipments of Empty Carboys to Denig & Co.

All the Departments are actively engaged.

Most respectfully
Your mo obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
R. M. McAlpin
Sup. at New Orleans
27 Jan. 1852

Rec'd 5 Feb.

February 1852

# Statement of the condition of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, at the close of the week ending January 24. 1852.

## Coinage account Dr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last statement | $ 513.380. 91 |
| Add, coinage since received in gold coins | " 160.000. 00 |
| Total means for the week | $ 673.380. 91 |

## Contra Cr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposits paid during the week | $ 486.259. 56 |
| Assay coins reserved | " 160. 00 |
| Balance on hand | " 186.961. 35 |
| | 673380.91 |

## Bullion account Dr.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Outstanding deposits assayed and payable, but not demanded | Gold $ 268.512. 06<br>Silver " 1.438. 65 | $ 269.950. 71 |
| Estimate of deposits remaining unassayed or uncalculated | Gold $ 241.235. 00<br>Silver " 186. 00 | " 241.421. 00 |
| Estimated bullion to be accounted for to private dep: | | $ 511.371. 71 |
| Add, debt to U. States for Bullion fund | | " 960.000. 00 |
| Total debt on Bullion account | | $ 1.471.371. 71 |
| Deduct balance of coin in Treasury as above | | " 186.961. 35 |
| Difference, being total bullion in course of manufacture | | $ 1.284.410. 36 |

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office Jany. 24. 1852.
Wm. G. Buys Treasurer

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Febry 3rd 1852

Sir

Enclosed please find statement of the condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending January 31st.

I will forward the monthly statement in a day or two —

Not being pressed I am engaged in repairing the Building. The Galleries leading to the Melting Department were so much decayed, it is a great wonder they had not fallen.

I am as yet unable to give you the information relative to the cost of this Building, Dr Hort thinks he may ascertain it from his papers. Mr Martin Gordon the Commissioner is dead, and his son informs me that all the papers are on file in the Treasury Department —

Most respectfully
Your very Obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt at N. Orleans

3 Feb. 1852

Recd 12

February 1852

# Statement of the condition of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, at the close of the week ending Jany. 31. 1852.

## Coinage account. Dr.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last Statement | | $ 186.961. 35 |
| Add, Coinage since rec.d | Gold $ 490.000.00 | |
| | Silver " 12.000.00 | " 502.000.00 |
| Total means for the week | | $ 688.961. 35 |

## Contra Cr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposits paid during the week | $ 254.167. 76 |
| Assay coins reserved | " 502. 50 |
| Balance on hand | " 434.291. 09 |
| | $ 688.961. 35 |

## Bullion account Dr.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Outstanding deposits assayed and payable, but not demanded | Gold $ 318.150. 40<br>Silver " 1.729. 13 | |
| Bullion to be accounted for to private depositors | | $ 319.879. 53 |
| Add, debt to U. States for Bullion fund | | " 960.000. 00 |
| Total debt on Bullion account | | $ 1.279.879. 53 |
| Deduct balance of coin in Treasury as above | | " 434.291. 09 |
| Difference, being total bullion in course of manufacture | | $ 845.588. 44 |

Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, January 31. 1852
Wm. DeBuys Treasurer.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Feby 5th 1852

Sir

Enclosed please find Statement of the Deposits and Coinage at this Branch Mint for the Month of January — also of Coins reserved for assay during the same period.

The Coins enclosed in Box will accompany this by tomorrows mail —

Our Gold is all refined, an awaiting the arrival of the "Philadelphia" expect at least $1.000.000. by her —

Most respectfully
Your very obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

R. M. McAlpin
Supt

New Orleans

5 Feb. 1852

Recd 11th.

# Statement of Gold and Silver coins reserved for assaying at the Branch Mint of the United States, New-Orleans during the Month of January 1852

| Date | | Deliveries | deliveries | Pieces | Value | | Total Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1852 | | Gold | | | Dollars | Cts | Dollars | Cts |
| Jany | 17 | Double Eagles | 7.250 | 7 | 140 | 00 | | |
| | 21 | Double Eagles | 8.000 | 8 | 160 | 00 | | |
| | 26 | Double Eagles | 8 000 | 8 | 160 | 00 | | |
| | 29 | Double Eagles | 12.500 | 13 | 260 | 00 | | |
| | 31 | Double Eagles | 4 000 | 4 | 80 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 800 | 00 |
| | | Silver | | | | | | |
| Jany | 31 | Half Dollars | 24.000 | 5 | 2 | 50 | | |
| | | | | | | | 2 | 50 |
| | | | | | | | 802 | 50 |

Branch Mint of the U. States
New Orleans January 31st 1852

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Wm. P. Hort Assayer

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans July 9th 1852

Sir

I deeply regret to announce the Death of Dr Wm P Hort the Assayer of this Branch Mint, the event transpired last evening. To avoid delay in our operations I have this day requested the Secty of Treasury to appoint temporarily Mr Millspaugh the assistant of Dr Hort. and in whom he had entire confidence. The working Officers all testify to the acuracacy of Mr M's assays. during Dr Hort's illness. Dr Bozano frequently reassayed and always found them correct.

Dr Hort was a most worthy citizen and a superior Officer. his equal will be hard to find

Most respectfully
Your my obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr. G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Sup't at N. Orleans
9 Feb. 1852

Rec'd 18th

# The Western Telegraph Company,

**MORSE LINE,**

TO

**Pittsburg, Cleveland, Wheeling, Cincinnati, Louisville, Nashville & St. Louis,**

CONNECTING WITH

Lines in the Northwest, West, and Southwest, and all Intermediate Stations.

**Office in Philadelphia, 100 Chesnut Street, south side, 2 doors above Third Street.**

STEAM PRESS, SUN BUILDING, BALT.

**BY TELEGRAPH,**

Dated New Orleans Feb 10 1852.

Rec'd, Philadelphia, 14th 1852. 2 o'clock, min. P. M.

To Dr G. Nocket

Director Mint

Doctor Hort one of our assayers died last night I have asked the Secretary of Treasury to appoint Mr. Millsbourgh the assistant, temporarily as assayer.

M. L. McAlpine

Paid

from
Supt. at N. Orleans
10 Feb. 1852

Recd 14th

Washington 14 Feb 1852

Dear Sir

Our information from N Orleans was unofficial & from an applicant for the office — we have just received a telegraph from Mr McAlpin who says it is Dr Hort the Assayer who is dead & not the coiner — I hasten to correct the error — his assistant has been appointed acting Assayer —

very truly

W L Hodge

Dr G N Eckert

From
Secy of Treasy
Washington
Recd 16th  14 Feb. 1852

Dear Sir [illegible]

Our Coroner is dead at N. Orleans - Have you any suitable person to recommend?

Very truly
R. L. Hodge

Thursday

From

Secr of Treasy

Wash 12 Feb. 52

Recd 13

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans July 14th 1852

Sir

I have the honor of enclosing herewith statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending 7th Inst, on Monday will send report of this week,

We are still receiving deposits but in consequence of the death of Dr Hort, business generally is suspended I have heard nothing as yet from Washington.

Many portions of the Mint building being in a very dilapidated condition I am keeping our workmen actively employed repairing, plastering, &c &c

Mr Wick, the Chief Clerk has resigned and Genl DeBuys has appointed Mr Charles Pitts who will enter on his duties this day. he is a very competent Gentleman

Most respectfully
Your very obt servt
A. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
R. M. McAlpin, Supt
New Orleans
14 Feby 1852

Recd 24th

# Statement of the condition of the Branch Mint, New Orleans, at the close of the week ending Feby. 7. 1852.

---

## Coinage account Dr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last statement | $ 434.291. 09 |
| Add, coinage since received, in gold coins | " 170.000. 00 |
| Total means for the week | $ 604.291. 09 |

## Contra Cr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposites paid during the week | $ 171.928. 37 |
| Assay coins reserved | " 160. 00 |
| Balance on hand | " 432.202. 72 |
| | $ 604.291. 09 |

---

## Bullion account Dr.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Outstanding deposites assayed and payable, but not demanded | Gold $156.055.34<br>Silver 3.136.28 | $ 159.191. 62 |
| Estimate of deposites remaining unassayed or uncalculated | Gold $179.675.12<br>Silver 204.22 | " 179.879. 34 |
| Estimated bullion to be accounted for to private dep: | | $ 339.070. 96 |
| Add, debt to the U. States, for bullion fund | | " 960.000. 00 |
| Total debt on Bullion account | | $1.299.070. 96 |
| Deduct, balance of coin in Treasury, as above | | " 432.202. 72 |
| Difference, being total bullion in course of manuf. | | $ 866.868. 24 |

---

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office, Feb. 7. 1852.

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

# Statement

of the situation of the
Branch Mint at New
Orleans, at the close of
the week ending
Feby. 7. 1852.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Feby 16th 1852

Sir

I have the honor of enclosing statement of the condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending Saturday 14th Inst.

I received a dispatch this morning from the Secty of the Treasury authorising me to appoint a temporary Assayer. in accordance with the same I have appointed Mr Millspaugh the assistant of the late Dr Hort.

Most respectfully
Your mos obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Sup. at N. Orleans
16 Feb. 1852

Recd.
25 Feb. 52

# Statement of the condition of the Branch Mint, New Orleans, at the close of the week ending Feby. 14. 1852.

---

## Coinage account Dr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last Statement | $ 432.202.72 |
| Total means for the week | $ 432.202.72 |

## Contra Cr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposits paid during the week | $ 97.569.92 |
| Balance on hand | " 334.632.80 |
| | $ 432.202.72 |

---

## Bullion account Dr.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Outstanding deposits assayed and payable, but not demanded | Gold | $215.231.57 | |
| | Silver | 3.136.28 | $ 218.367.89 |
| Estimate of deposits remaining unassayed or uncalculated | Gold | $121.691.50 | |
| | Silver | " 674.56 | " 122.366.06 |
| Estimated bullion to be accounted for to private dep: | | | $ 340.733.95 |
| Add, debt to the U. States, for bullion fund | | | " 960.000.00 |
| Total debt on bullion account | | | $ 1.300.733.95 |
| Deduct, balance of coin in Treasury, as above | | | " 334.632.80 |
| Difference, being total bullion in course of manuf. | | | $ 966.101.15 |

---

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Treasurer's Office Feb. 14. 1852.

Wm. G. Biays
Treasurer

Mint of the United States
Philada. 19 Feb. 1852.

Sir;

I have to acknowledge your communications, by telegraph & letter, announcing the death of Dr. Hort: an event seriously to be regretted. I understand from the Secretary that Mr. Millspaugh has been temporarily appointed. It is a matter of some doubt with me whether, in strictness of law such an appointment can be made; since, in such a vacancy as now exists, it appears to me a regular nomination to the Senate, with the execution of bonds & oath of office are necessary. If this be so it becomes important to consider at once the selection of an individual competent permanently to retain the office. If Mr. Millspaugh be properly qualified he should be recommended with that view; if you could not feel safe with him permanently, it is not even proper that he should be appointed temporarily. The responsibility incurred by an incompetent selection is immense. In such a remark I am far from expressing any opinion regarding Mr. M., as I am quite unacquainted with him even by report. Your own commendation of him, & Dr. Bonzano's criticism of his assays impress me in his favor.

The annual assay was held on the 16th, by adjournment

Your gold coins were reported ~~th~~ 899.5, silver 898.6, threecent 748. Two weighings were made; one of $3370 in gold weighed 3 thous. of an ounce less than the legal weight; one of $197.50 weighed 2 thousandths less. The silver & threecent agreed to the legal weight.

Your report & assay coins for Jan'y have been received.

In a former letter you asked the wastage of our M. & R. No account has been settled since 19th of July. The wastage was oz. 635$^{167}$ gold on oz. 2,574,805$^{354}$; and oz. 388$^{79}$ silver on oz. 601,255$^{94}$. The C. Coiner's waste was oz. 1,195$^{590}$ in gold, on oz. 5,073,754$^{260}$, and oz. 241$\frac{6}{100}$ on 573,215$^{56}$ silver; the C. C.'s a/c covered the whole year; the M. & R.'s about 6 months. I am pleased to see such satisfactory statements of wastage from your Mint. It must not be overlooked, however, that the M. & R. has had some gain to his a/c from the low title of his ingots as proved by the late assay of coins. At this Mint the gold was to standard & the silver (except the threecent) was $\frac{4}{10}$ above; so that there was no gain of bullion on these accounts; the threecent was 1½ th low, and in so far there was a gain to the silver account. What is your plan of ascertaining silver in gold parted for Mint & not depositors?

Very respectfully

Geo. N. Eckert

Director

R. M. McAlpin Esq.

Wastage 15 Dan.

Cost of mint — 3d.

| | |
|---|---|
| 384 | 192 grains |
| 375 | 187.5 x |
| | 180. |
| 360 | |

206.25
20.62
185.63

200
6¼

T/

Supt at N. Orleans

19 Feb. 1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Feby 23d 1852

Sir

I have the honor of enclosing Statement of the condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending Saturday 21st Inst.

The Deposits for the last two days are about Five Thousand Ounces Gold Dust.

Most respectfully
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

I cannot find in our Books or Papers any thing relating to the cost of this Building &c. Mr Martin Gordon Sr assures me that the Documents are all on file in Washington —

Fm

Supt. at N. Orleans

23 Feb. 1852

1852
Recd. Mar. 1

March
1852

Statement of the condition of the Branch Mint New Orleans, at the close of the week ending Feby 21st 1852

## Coinage Account Dr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last Statement | $334.632.80 |
| Add Coinage since received, in Gold Coins | 230.000.00 |
| Total means for the week | $564.632.80 |

## Contra Cr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposites paid during the week | $109.211.13 |
| Assay Coins reserved | 230.00 |
| Balance on hand | 455.191.67 |
| | $564.632.80 |

## Bullion Account Dr.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Outstanding Deposites assayed and payable but not demanded | Gold | $264.535.31 | |
| | Silver | 929.36 | $265.464.67 |
| Estimate of Deposites remaining unassayed or uncalculated | Gold | $80.315.20 | |
| | Silver | 2.535.00 | " 82.850.20 |
| Estimated Bullion to be accounted for to private Dep. | | | $348.314.87 |
| Add Debt to the U. States, for Bullion fund | | | 960.000.00 |
| Total debt on Bullion Account | | | $1308.314.87 |
| Deduct Balance of Coin in Treasury, as above | | | 455.191.67 |
| Difference being Total Bullion in course of Manufe | | | $853.123.20 |

Branch Mint United States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office Feby 21st 1852

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans

Weekly statement of
the Treasurer Wm. W. Bays
21 Feby 1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans
March 1st 1852

Sir

I have the honor to enclose Summary Statement of the Condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending Feby 28th —

I notice your remarks in yours of 19th ulto — regarding Mr Millspaugh — Mr M. is not I think a superior Chemist but certainly is a most correct practical Assayer. Dr Hort had unlimited confidence in him, in fact since I have been in the Mint Mr M. has made the principal portion of the Assays, superintended of course by Dr Hort —

Dr J. Lawrence Smith a gentleman who stands at the head of his Profession is an applicant, and is very highly recommended If he is appointed, I will retain Mr M. as Assistant —

Most respectfully
Yr very obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

Supt at N. Orleans

1 Mar 1852

Recd. 1
11 Mar. 52

# Statement of the condition of the Branch Mint, New Orleans, at the close of the week ending 28 Feby 1852

## Coinage Account Dr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last Statement | $455.191.67 |
| Total means for the week | 455.191.67 |

## Contra Cr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposits paid during the week | $188.511.80 |
| Balance on hand | 266.679.87 |
| | $455.191 67 |

## Bullion Account Dr

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Outstanding deposits assayed and | Gold | $234.182.29 | |
| payable but not demanded | Silver | 10.726.35 | $244.908.64 |
| Estimate of Deposits remaining | Gold | $88.575.37 | |
| unassayed or uncalculated | Silver | 452.04 | 89.027.41 |
| Estimated Bullion to be accounted for to private Dep. | | | $333.936 05 |
| Add, Debt to the U. States for Bullion fund | | | 960.000.00 |
| Total debt on Bullion Account | | | $1.293.936.05 |
| Deduct, Balance of Coin in Treasury, as above | | | 266.679.87 |
| Difference being Total Bullion in course of Manuf: | | | $1.027.256.18 |

Branch Mint United States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office Feby 28th 1852

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Weekly Statement of the
Treasurer, Wm DeBuys
of the
Branch Mint U. States
New Orleans
28 Febry 1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans March 2d 1852

Sir

I enclose herewith Statements of the Deposits and Coinage at this Branch Mint during the Month of February also of the Coins reserved for assay during the same period,

The Assay Coins will be forwarded by this days Mail —

A very serious accident occured this morning in the Melting Room. The lower portion viz the first and second stories bulged out, and at one time we thought the entire of both of the Chimnies for our Furnaces would fall. Several of the Arches rest on them and should they fall the damage may be very great.

Dr Bonzano has made a requisition to have them taken down and rebuilt it will cost some $ 1000.

I will have a survey made to day by some of our best Architects and Builders and unless absolutely necessary will not take them down. We have placed extra spurs

and Braces to prevent farther damage —
Mr DeBurg, Mr Devall and others say it is
too dangerous to remain as it is, The lives
of the Workmen are in danger —

Most respectfully
Yr my obt servt
A. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt at N. Orleans

2 Mar 1852

Rec'd

11 Mar 52

# Statement of Gold and Silver Coins, reserved for Assaying at the Branch Mint of the United States, New-Orleans, during the Month of February 1852

| Date | | Deliveries | Deliveries | Pieces | Value | | Total Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1852 | | Gold | | | Dollars | Cts | Dollars | Cts |
| Feby | 5 | Double Eagles | 8.500 | 8 | 160 | 00 | | |
| | 18 | Eagles | 12.000 | 12 | 120 | 00 | | |
| | " | Quarter Eagles | 44.000 | 44 | 110 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 390 | 00 |
| | | Silver | | | | | | |
| Feby | 29 | No delivery | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 390 | 00 |

Branch Mint of the United States
New Orleans February 29th 1852

Wm. P. Hort
Treasurer

H. Millspaugh Act'g
Assayer

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans March 5th 1852

Sir

As I mentioned in mine of 2d Inst. I have had a survey held on the Chimnies of the Melting Department —
Mr Reynolds the Architect of the Custom House
Mr Purvis " do " " St Chas Hotel
and six of our best Builders & Brick Masons
It is their unanimous opinion that they are dangerous and totally unfit for use,

I have commenced taking down one and will have it rebuilt immediately, Mr Reynolds & Dr Bryans have suggested some improvements that will not enhance the cost. The work will all be done by the Mint Workmen, with the exception of two extra Brick Layers. We think, not to delay the operations of the Mint, that we can use one Stack till the other is rebuilt and fit for use, It is our intention to build the inside with the best English Fire brick, leave an opening of about one inch and the outside of the best pressed Country Brick cost 10$ M every five layers securely fastened with

Hoop Iron, I trust "it being as you will perceive absolutely necessary" that all of this will meet your approbation.

This large expense with many other unavoidable outlays will I fear make us short in our Contingent fund. Had I not better call on the "Secty of the Treasury" for an extra appropriation of $10,000 —

I must again call your attention to the subject of Scales. The Treasurers Scales are totally unfit. by shifting the Pan will vary a large fraction of an ounce. The Officers are loth to use them —

Our manner of ascertaining Silver in Gold parted for Mint and not Depositors is by actual assay —

Most respectfully
Your very obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

Supt at N. Orleans

5 March

Recd

15 Mar 1852.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans March 8th 1852

Sir

I have the honor of enclosing Statement of the Condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending 6th Inst.

We find in taking down our Stack, that the Groined Arches in the second story are giving away, and Dr Bonzano declines taking the responsibility of rebuilding the Chimneys. In consequence of this I have "with the consent of the "C. H. Commissioners" employed Mr Reynolds to superintend and draught a plan for the rebuilding the same—

Business is not interrupted to any extent, as we are using our Stack, and the receipts of Gold are not large—

Most respectfully
Your very obt Servant
R. M. McAlpin
Supt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt at N. Orleans
8 March

Rec'd
17 Mar. 1852

# Statement of the condition of the Branch Mint New Orleans, at the close of the week ending 6th March 1852

## Coinage account Dr

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last Statement | $266,679.87 |
| add Coinage since received in Gold Coins | 100,000.00 |
| Total means for the week | $366,679.87 |

## Contra Cr

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposits paid during the week | $135,086.33 |
| Assay Coins reserved | 110.00 |
| Balance on hand | 231.483.54 |
| | $366.679.87 |

## Bullion account Dr

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Outstanding Deposits assayed and payable but not demanded | Gold | $234.182.29 | |
| | Silver | 10726.35 | $244.908.64 |
| Estimate of Deposits remaining unassayed or uncalculated | Gold | $52.409.00 | |
| | Silver | 925.29 | 53.334.29 |
| Estimated Bullion to be accounted for to private Dep: | | | $298.242.93 |
| Add debt to the U States for Bullion fund | | | 960.000.00 |
| Total debt on Bullion Account | | | $1.258.242.93 |
| Deduct, Balance of Coin in Treasury as above | | | 231.483.54 |
| Difference being total Bullion in course of manuf: | | | $1.026.759.39 |

Branch Mint U. States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 6th March 1852

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Weekly Statement of the
Treasurer, Wm DeBuys
of the
Branch Mint U. States
New Orleans
6 March 1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans March 15 1852

Sir

Enclosed you will please find Statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending 13th Inst —

Our chimney is progressing as rapidly as it is politic to build and make a fine piece of work —

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

Most respectfully
your my obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

From

Supt at N. Orleans
15 Mar 1852

Recd.
23 Mar. 1852

# Statement of the Condition of the Branch Mint New Orleans, at the close of the week ending 13 March 1852

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## Coinage account Dr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last Statement | $ 231,483.54 |
| Add, Coinage received since in Gold Coins | 250,000.00 |
| Total means for the week | $ 481,483,54 |

## Contra Cr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposits paid during the week | $ 172,813,50 |
| Assay Coins reserved | 250.00 |
| Balance on hand | 308,420,04 |
| | $ 481,483,54 |

---

## Bullion account Dr

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Outstanding Deposits assayed and payable, but not demanded | Gold | $ 187.864.33 | |
| | Silver | 9.915.49 | $ 197.779.82 |
| Estimate of Deposits remaining unassayed or uncalculated | Gold | $ 20688.85 | |
| | Silver | 588.00 | 21.276.85 |
| Estimated Bullion to be accounted for to private Dep: | | | $ 219.056.67 |
| Add, Debt to the United States for Bullion fund | | | 960.000.00 |
| Total debt on Bullion account | | | $ 1.179.056.67 |
| Deduct, Balance of Coin in Treasury as above | | | 308 420.04 |
| Difference being Total Bullion in course of Manuf: | | | $ 870.636.63 |

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Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 13th March 1852 Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Weekly Statement of the
Branch Mint of U States
New Orleans 13 March 1852
by Wm DeBuys, Treasurer -

Mint of the United States
Philada. 18 Mar. 1852

Sir,

I enclose my account with you for the quarter ending 29 ult., together with accompanying vouchers.

Very respectfully
Your obdt Servt

Wm. De Buys. Esq, Treasr.
New Orleans.

Director

Mint of the United States
Philada 18 Mar. 1852

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your report & assay coins for February, & other correspondence to the 8th inst.

The necessity of repairs to your chimneys is much to be regretted but no other course appears to have been open to you.

It is proper to inform you that the Chairman of the Commee. of Ways & Means has reported but $45,200 for your Contingent Expenses next fiscal year, and $24,000 for machinery; the wages & salaries are as asked for, viz $35,700 & $17,300. If, upon a reconsideration of your grounds of estimates you find it impossible to sustain yourself with that appropriation, you should address me, officially, on the subject. I may remark that if Mr Hunter's bill giving a seignorage on silver, & making a charge for coinage, should pass, your means will be more than ample. — Have you disposed of your threecent pieces?

Your obdt Servt

R. M. McAlpin Esq. Supt
N. Orleans

Director

Do/

Sup. at N. Orleans

18 Mar 1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans March 29th 1852

Sir

Having been confined to my room for several days, I am only now enabled to enclose the reports of the condition of this Mint, for the weeks ending respectively 20th & 27th Inst.—

As we will probably require some three or four hundred Carboys Acid more than now on hand ere vessels will be coming out in the Fall, I would thank you to instruct Messrs. Lenig & Co to forward about this quantity at their earliest convenience—

Your favor enclosing Accounts is to hand, I will in a day or two write you officially in regard to our Contingent requisition— The Melters & Refiners Stack is finished, when all bills are paid will give you full particulars—

We have Fourteen Thousand Six Hundred Dollars Three cents pieces on hand— All our Three Cents clippings has been converted into Standard Bullion— Our receipts of Gold Dust good nice specimens are at present very limited -

Most respectfully
Your very obt Servt

A. M. McAlpin
Supt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Sup. at N. Orleans
29 Mar 1852

Rec'd ~~[illegible]~~
8 Ap. 1852

# Statement of the Condition of the Branch Mint New Orleans, at the close of the Week ending 20th March 1852

## Coinage Account Dr

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last Statement | $308.420.04 |
| Add, Coinage received since in Gold Coins | 150.000.00 |
| Total means for the week | $458.420.04 |

## Contra Cr

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposits paid during the week | $155.642.92 |
| Assay Coins reserved | 140.00 |
| Balance on hand | 302.637.12 |
| | $458.420.04 |

## Bullion Account Dr

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Outstanding Deposits assayed and payable but not demanded | Gold | $81.479.67 | |
| | Silver | 9162.35 | $ 90.642.02 |
| Estimate of Deposits remaining unassayed or uncalculated | Gold | 6200.42 | |
| | Silver | 489.67 | 6.690.09 |
| Estimated Bullion to be accounted for to private Dep: | | | $ 97.332.11 |
| add Debt to the United States for Bullion fund | | | 960.000.00 |
| Total debt on Bullion account | | | $1.057.332.11 |
| Deduct Balance of Coin in Treasury as above | | | 302.637.12 |
| Difference being Total Bullion in course of Manuf: | | | $754.694.99 |

Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 20th March 1852

Wm. P. Buys Treasurer

Weekly Statement of
the Treasurer, Wm. De Buys
of the
Branch Mint U. States
New Orleans
20 March 1851

# Statement of the Condition of the Branch Mint, New Orleans at the close of the week ending 27th March 1852

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## Coinage account Dr

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last Statement | $302.637.12 |
| Total means for the week | $302.637.12 |

---

## Contra Cr

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposits paid during this week | $ 80.676.88 |
| Balance on hand | 221.960.24 |
| | $302.637.12 |

---

## Bullion account Dr

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Outstanding Deposits assayed and payable, but not demanded | Gold | $112.055.78 | |
| | Silver | 1834.32 | $113.890.10 |
| Estimate of Deposits remaining unassayed or uncalculated | Gold | 27162.10 | |
| | Silver | 1689.00 | 28.851.10 |
| Estimated Bullion to be accounted for to private Dep: | | | $142.741.20 |
| add, Debt to the United States for Bullion fund | | | 960.000.00 |
| Total debt on Bullion account | | | $1102.741.20 |
| Deduct Balance of Coin in Treasury as above | | | 221.960.24 |
| Difference being Total Bullion in course of manuf: | | | $880.78096 |

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Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans

Treasurer's Office 27th March 1852.

Wm. DeBuys

Treasurer

Weekly Statement of the
Treasurer, Wm DeBuys. of
Branch Mint U. States,
New Orleans, 27 March 1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans April 5th 1852

Sir

Enclosed I have the pleasure of handing you Statements of the Deposits and Coinage of this Branch during the month of March, and of Coins reserved for assay during the same period.

The Coins will be forwarded by this days mail —

I also enclose Statement of the condition of this Branch Mint at the close of the week ending Saturday 3rd Inst —

Most respectfully
Your mo obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G N Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

Insp
Sup. at N. Orleans
5 ap. 52

Recd
14 ap. 52

# Statement of Gold and Silver Coins reserved for assaying, at the Branch Mint of the United States New-Orleans during the Month of March 1852.

| Date | | Deliveries | Deliveries | Pieces | Value | | Total Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Dollars | Cts | Dollars | Cts |
| 1852 | | Gold | | | | | | |
| March | 4 | Double Eagles | 4500 | 5 | 100 | 00 | | |
| | " | Eagles | 1000 | 1 | 10 | 00 | | |
| | 10 | Double Eagles | 6000 | 6 | 120 | 00 | | |
| | " | Eagles | 5000 | 5 | 50 | 00 | | |
| | 13 | Double Eagles | 4000 | 4 | 80 | 00 | | |
| | 19 | Double Eagles | 7.500 | 7 | 140 | 00 | | |
| | 29 | Double Eagles | 12750 | 13 | 260 | 00 | | |
| | 31 | Double Eagles | 10.000 | 10 | 200 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 960 | 00 |
| | | Silver | | | | | | |
| March | 31 | Half Dollars | 8000 | 2 | 1 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 1 | 00 |
| | | | | | | | 961 | 00 |

Branch Mint of the U States
New Orleans March 31st 1852

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

H. Millspaugh Actg
Assayer

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans April 6 1852

Sir

Agreeably to the suggestion in yours of 18th March, I have, with the assistance of all the Officers, thoroughly reconsidered the grounds of the estimates of expenses for the next Fiscal Year, and it is our unanimous opinion that we cannot sustain this Branch with credit to the Government unless the whole Amt asked for is appropriated—

I enclose you Copys of the estimates of the Coiner and Melter and Refiner. I also enclose a Copy of a Letter from the Treasurer on this subject—

As I have intimated to you on several occasions our Contingent fund will fall short this Year a considerable sum, and that you may be fully acquainted with our condition I enclose an estimate of the probable deficiency and Means. I would remark that a considerable portion of our indebtedness is of old standing. when I entered upon my duties in

January 1851. The Contingent fund for the previous year was exhausted and the Mint in debt over $15,000 — the additional sum has arisen from unavoidable outlays and not from carelessness or extravagance.

I think it adviseable to ask for an additional appropriation of $25,000 and will anxiously await your views —

Most respectfully
Your my obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
of the Mint
Philadelphia

From
Sup.t at N. Orleans
27 Mar 52

Rec'd
6 ap. 52

April 1852

Branch Mint of the U. S.
New Orleans. 6th April 1852
Superintendent's office.

In reply to letter of 18th ult.
from the Director of the Mint
transmitting copies of
estimates of the Coiner &
Melter & Refiner of the
expenses of this Br. Mint for
the next fiscal year &
asking for additional
appropriation of $25000

Copy

Branch Mint U States
New Orleans Treasurer's Office 27 March 1852

R M McAlpin, Esq
Superdt
Sir,

The Letter, addressed to you by the Director of the Mint, dated 18th inst, has had my attentive perusal, and on a careful reconsideration of my former estimates required for contingent expenses, for the fiscal year ending 30 June 1853, I cannot discover any item which will bear any reduction.

The amount of $45200, reported by the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means for our Contingent Expenses for the next fiscal year, will be quite inadequate to meet our necessary and unavoidable demands, and it will be impossible to sustain ourselves as an active and an efficient department.

From our Bullion returns for the year 1851, it will be seen that the business of our Branch Mint has greatly increased, and, there is no reason to doubt, that the influx of California Gold will still continue to be large. Our Depositors are well satisfied with the promptitude of our payments in the purchase of their Gold and Silver Bullion, and, unless a sufficient appropriation is made to pay the current and necessary expenses, much inconvenience and discontent must necessarily be the result to the public -

Very respectfully
Your obed^t Serv^t
(signed) Wm DeBuys
Treasurer

3

New Orleans 25th Octr 1851

Copy

Melter & Refiner's estimate of ordinary expenses of the Melting Department, for the fiscal year, ending 30 June 1853.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Wages | | $16000.– |
| 14400 Bbls Charcoal | at 35c | 5000.– |
| 2400 Carboys Acid | at $11 | 26400.– |
| Copper, Zinc, Sulphuric Acid, &c, | | 10000.– |
| Hardware & other materials | | 5000.– |
| Wastage for the year 1852 | | 10000.– |
| Silver used for Alloy of Gold | | 11000.– |
| Required for fiscal year of 1853 | | $83400.– |

New Orleans 18th Octr 1851

Copy

Coiner's estimate of ordinary expenses of the Coinage Department, for the fiscal year, ending 30 June 1853

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wages of Workmen | | | $18000– |
| Coal & Wood | | | 8000– |
| Contingencies, viz. Iron, Steel, Oil, Hardware, &c &c | | | 6000– |
| New Machinery, viz. | New Main Engine | $12000.– | |
| | New Coining press | 8000.– | |
| | New Cutting Machine | 1000.– | |
| | New Lap for rolls | 500.– | |
| | 12 pair rolls | 1000.– | 22500.– |
| New Balances for Weigh room | | | 1500.– |
| | | | $56.000.– |
| Add probable wastage for the year 1852 | | | 10.000 |
| | | | $66.000 |

## Grounds of the estimates for an extra appropriation required by the Branch Mint at New Orleans, to meet the present liabilities and the incidental and contingent expenses, for the second quarter of 1852

### Present liabilities & probable expenses

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 - Balance at debit of Profit & Loss account on 31 March 1852 | $15.887.30 |
| 2 - Amount of Bill due for Pots | 4.302.48 |
| 3 - Amount of Bill due for Acids, &c. | 11.570.98 |
| 4 - Sundry Bills outstanding & now due for Copper, Zinc, Sulphuric Acid, Hardware, Iron, Steel, Charcoal, Wood, &c | 2225.00 |
| 5 - Estimated Cost of rebuilding Chimney in M & Refiner's Department for Bricks, Lime, Labor, &c | 2000.00 |
| 6 - Estimated amount required for the Coinage Dept. for the 2d Quarter of 1852 for Coal, Wood, Iron, Steel, &c | 3.500.00 |
| 7 - Estimated amount required for the Meltg & Refing Dept. for the 2d quarter of 1852, for Copper, Zinc, Sulphuric Acid, Salt, Borax, Nitre, &c Charcoal, Tools, Hardware &c | 4960.00 |
| Total liabilities & probable expenses | $44.445.76 |

### Probable means

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 - Available Balance on hand 31 March 1852 | $ 1869.30 | |
| 2 - Appropriation undrawn & still available | 9100.00 | |
| 3 - probable amount legal deductions frm Deposits | 4000.00 | |
| 4 - probable amnt. of Silver parted from Calª. Gold & not allowed to Depositors | 1500.00 | |
| | | $ 16469.30 |
| Probable amount of deficiency | | $27976.46 |

Branch Mint U States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 5th April 1852

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

R. M. McAlpin
Superintendent

Branch Mint, U. States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 8th April 1852

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith the Bond of Charles Pitts, nominated by me as Chief Clerk, in the place of Mr. J. J. Wickes, resigned, under the joint resolution changing the mode of appointing the Clerks of the Mints of the U. States approved March 3d 1851, which after receiving your approval is to be forwarded to the Hon. Secretary of the Treasury –

Very respectfully
Your obedt Servt
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Dr Geo N. Eckert
Director, Mint of the U States
Philadelphia

From
Wm De Buys
Treasr
New Orleans
8 Apr 52

Recd
16 Apr 52

Mint of the United States
Philada 16 Apr. 1852.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will render the necessary assistance to procure, if possible some change in the appropriations reported for this Mint & that at New Orleans for the coming fiscal year.

And, first, as to this Mint, I find that the appropriation reported for officers & clerks is but $21,000 instead of $22,200 as asked. In the last fiscal year the first sum was appropriated & I suppose the Committee have acted without information of the circumstances which made necessary the appointment of a new clerk at $1200, after the estimates of the current fiscal year were made out. Permit me to refer to the letter from the [illegible] former Director of 31 Mar. 1851 showing the indispensable necessity of such a clerk, - to the letter from the Department of 10th April following showing the President's approval thereof, as required under the act of Jan. 18, 1837. — and to the further communication of 17 April, showing the approval of the clerk nominated. I trust that if the Committee will consider the circumstances as detailed in the first letter they will have no hesitation in confirming the appropriation asked. Indeed, the increased business of the Mint is so notorious that an increase of clerical force ought to excite no surprise.

Again our wages fund is reduced from $66,000 to $50,900; while, on the other hand our contingent fund (in addition to other available funds) is made $25,000 instead of $700 as asked. I trust that the items will be transposed so as to give us the amount asked for wages. We are now actually paying at that rate, and there seems no prospect whatever of a reduction of the work required of us.

The Committee have granted us, on the whole, $99000, while the amount I have asked for was but $85,200. The several items of appropriation differing from what we require, much inconvenience will thus be created. I sincerely hope that no objection will be interposed to rectify the error (as I suppose) particularly as the total sum will thus be reduced. To prevent mistakes I recapitulate our wants, as follows: viz. Salaries $22,200, wages

$66,000, contingencies (in addition &c) $700, rent & repairs $300
Total $89,200.—

With regard to the New Orleans appropriations, a reduction has been reported in the item of Contingencies, $45,200 being granted instead of $76000. Upon this subject I invoke your attention to the enclosed copy of correspondence received from the Superintendent, from which it will be seen that he & the other officers are unanimously of opinion that the Branch cannot be sustained with credit to the Government unless the whole amount asked for is appropriated.

In the same correspondence is presented an estimate showing a probable deficiency of $\$27{,}976^{70}$ in the means for the current fiscal year. If the Department approves of an appropriation to meet this, it is important that it should be included in the deficiency bill now in the Senate.

Very respectfully
your obt. Servt
Geo N. Eckert
Director

Hon. Thomas Corwin
Secy of the Treasy

To

Secy of Treasy

16 Ap. 1852

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia 16 Ap. 1852

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose the bond of Charles Pitts, appointed a Clerk at the New Orleans Mint. The sureties are not known to me, and the certificate which I have given is founded solely on the justification made before the magistrate.

very respectfully
your obd't Servt

Geo N Eckert
Director

Hon. Thomas Corwin
Sec'y of the Treas'y

To

Secy of Treasy

16 April 52

[illegible]

U.S. Branch Mint
New Orleans April 26th 1852

Sir

Enclosed please find Statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending 24th Inst.

I will thank you to forward us $200. Two Hundred Dollars in Cents —

Excuse me if I again remind you of the Scales —

Most respectfully
Your my obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Sup. at N. Orleans
26 ap. 82

Recd
7 May 82

# Statement of the Condition of the Branch Mint, New Orleans at the Close of the Week ending 1st of May 1852

---

## Coinage Account Dr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Balance in Treasury at last Statement | $ 452.644.53 |
| Add, Coinage since received in Gold Coins | " 245.000.00 |
| Total Means for the Week | $ 697.644.53 |

## Contra Cr.

| | |
|---|---|
| Deposites paid during the Week | $ 85199.46 |
| Assay Coins reserved | " 240.00 |
| Balance on hand | " 612205.07 |
| | $ 697.644.53 |

---

## Bullion Account Dr.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Outstanding Deposites assayed and payable but Not demanded | Gold | $ 59.721.17 | |
| | Silver | " 4386.92 | $ 64.108.09 |
| Estimate of Deposites remaining unassayer or uncalculated | Gold | $ 4294.32 | |
| | Silver | " 559.82 | " 4854.14 |
| Estimated Bullion to be accounted for to priv. Dep: | | | $ 68.962.23 |
| Add, Debt to the U. States for Bullion fund | | | " 960.000.00 |
| Total debt on Bullion Account | | | $ 1.028.962.23 |
| Deduct Balance of Coin in Treasury as above | | | " 612.205.07 |
| Difference, being Total Bullion in Course of Manuf: | | | $ 416.757.16 |

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Branch Mint of the U. States. New Orleans
Treasurer's Office May 1st 1852
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Weekly Statement
of
Wm. DeBuys Treasurer
of the Branch Mint of the
U. States New Orleans
May 1st 1852

NEW ORLEANS - 1852 (CONT.)

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans May 3d 1852

Sir

Enclosed I have the pleasure of handing you Statements of the Deposits and Coinage of this Branch during the Month of April – and of Coins reserved for assay during the same period –
The Coins will be forwarded by tomorrows Mail –

I also enclose Statement of the condition of this Branch at the Close of the week ending Saturday 1st Inst –

Most respectfully
Your very obedient
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G N Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

Branch Mint N. Orleans
3 May 1852

Recd
11 May 52

# Statement of Gold and Silver Coins reserved for Assaying at the Branch Mint of the United States New Orleans during the Month of April 1852.

| Date | | Deliveries | deliveries | Pieces | Value | | Total Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1852 | | Gold | | | Dollars | Cts | Dollars | Cts |
| April | 7 | Double Eagles | 5000 | 5 | 100 | 00 | | |
| | 10 | Double Eagles | 3000 | 3 | 60 | 00 | | |
| | 30 | Double Eagles | 9250 | 9 | 180 | 00 | | |
| | " | Gold Dollars | 60,000 | 60 | 60 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 400 | 00 |
| | | Silver | | | | | | |
| | | No delivery | | | | | | |
| | | | | | Dollars | | 400 | 00 |

Branch Mint of the U. States New Orleans
April 30th 1852

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

H. Millspaugh act'g
Assayer

Mint of the United States
Philada 10 May 1852

Sir:

Your reports for March & April with the assay coins were duly received; also the communication relative to estimates. I have written on the latter point to the Secy of the Treasury.

Your order for acids has been filled, & I enclose a bill of lading. The two kegs of cents will also be forwarded.

Mr Meyer has nearly completed a scale beam which it is supposed will answer your purposes. When finished it will be tested, & if found suitable, will be purchased. He has made a very satisfactory balance for the Mint.

Please inform Col DeBuys that the bond of Mr Pikes was forwarded to the Secy with my approval.

I think it would be prudent to forward some of the ingot assay slips to this Mint to be tested. This was done when Dr Hort first went into office & it will no doubt be a satisfaction to Mr Millingaugh & [illegible] Very respectfully &c

Geo N Eckert
Director

To/

R. M. McAlpin Esq

New Orleans

10 May 1852

Mint of the United States
Philada. 17 May 1852

Sir;

In a letter from you, some weeks since, you mentioned that you had on hand, undisposed of, a large supply of three cents.

It appears to me very probable that if means should be adopted such as we employ that you would be able advantageously to dispose not only of your balance now on hand, but also of a considerable amount of new coinage. And it is perfectly clear that it is your policy to increase this coinage to the uttermost, first, because it is a source of very considerable profit & income to the Mint, & secondly it furnishes the only means of disposing of the silver which accumulated in the operation of parting.

When the coinage first commenced you were authorised to furnish supplies of the same to Government depositories conveniently accessible to your city, & also to Postmasters. We ourselves at first supposed that by such means the coin would pass rapidly into circulation; but having been disappointed, as you have been, though not in the same degree. I have made application for authority to have the Coin distributed to *individuals* who may require the same and who may be conveniently accessible by the line of the expresses. Such authority was given, and the Treasurer gave public notice thereof. In consequence we have experienced an exceedingly heavy demand for the Coin, to meet which our presses are striking some 100,000 pieces a day; proving incontestably the real wants of the public, and that these were not met under the former arrangement.

I therefore, suggest that you pursue the same system that we have adopted.

The advertisement made by our Treasurer was as follows, and I quote it because it appears to have been generally understood by the public, and will indicate to you the exact terms most proper to be adopted

"The Treas$^{r}$. of the Mint gives notice that he is prepared to exchange three cent pieces for gold to all applicants therefor. He will also deliver the same, at the expense of the Mint, to any parties requiring them at a distance, and who may be conveniently accessible on the line of the Expresses. The coins being in parcels of $30, $60, & $150, ~~the~~ applications should be for either of these sums or multiples thereof, and payment in advance will be required in every case

E. C. Dale, Treasr"

Inasmuch as the distribution to be made by you should only be to parties more conveniently accessible to you than to the principal Mint you should have the notice so worded as to refer the latter ~~such~~ parties to us.

All the remittances made by us are sent by Adams & Co's express, on terms arranged by schedule. You will no doubt find it to your advantage to employ the same house or its agency in N. Orleans.

The Three cent Profit & Loss acct being charged with the profits on the coinage, or the difference between the value by tale & the intrinsic value of the silver, it will be credited with the expenses of distribution, and vouchers & an abstract thereof will accompany the Treasrs acct with the department, and a warrant will cover them.

Very respy

Geo N Eckert
Director

C. M. McAlpin Esq.

7

70

Supt. at N. Orleans

17 May 1852

Branch Mint U.S.
New Orleans June 1st 1852

Sir

Agreeably with your request I forward enclosed Ten assay slips from Ten Melts. Title of all 900.m I will occasionally forward other slips —

Most respectfully
Your obt Servt
A. M. McAlpin

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

Supt. at N. Orleans
1 June 1852

Recd
10 June 1852

June 1852

Copy

Branch Mint of the U. States
New Orleans May 31st 1852

Sir

In compliance with your request, I have the honor to transmit you herewith for inspection and examination by the Director, four aſsay slips, from Melts No. 130. 133. 135. & 138, all of which I have reported at 900 Th. I thought proper to apprize the Melter & refiner of your communication, for the reason that he stands charged with all the aſsay slips in my possession, and being responsible therefor, they are legally in his custody, and could not be transmitted by me without his consent and knowledge. I take this opportunity to express to you my gratification at being thus enabled to compare my results with those of the aſsayers of the Phila Mint with which I hope they will be found to agree.

I have the honor to remain
with much respect
Your Obdt. Svt
(signed) H. Millspaugh actg.
assayer

To
Col. R. M. McAlpin
Superintendent

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans June 3d 1852

Sir

Herewith I enclose you Statement of the Deposits and Coinage at this Branch during the Month of May — also of Coins reserved for assay during the same period —

Very little Gold arriving — The assay Coins will be forwarded by tomorrows Mail —

Most respectfully
Your very obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

THE TREASURER of the BRANCH MINT OF THE UNITED STATES gives notice that he is prepared to EXCHANGE THREE CENT PIECES FOR GOLD to all applicants therefor. He will also deliver the same, at the expense of the Mint, to all parties requiring them at a distance, and who may be more conveniently accessible on the line of the expresses to this Branch than to the Mint in Philadelphia. The coins being in parcels of $30, 60 and $150, the applications should be for either of these sums or multiples thereof, and payment in advance will be required in every case.

je2 tf

WILLIAM DeBUYS, Treasurer.

From
Supt. at N. Orleans
3 June 1852

Recd
12 June 1852

# Statement of Gold and Silver Coins reserved for Assaying at the Branch Mint of the United States New=Orleans during the Month of May 1852.

| Date | | Deliveries | Deliveries | Pieces | Value | | Total Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Gold | | | Dollars | Cts | Dollars | Cts |
| 1852 | | | | | | | | |
| May | 8th | Double Eagles | 5750 | 6 | 120 | 00 | | |
| | 18 | Double Eagles | 2750 | 3 | 60 | 00 | | |
| | 26 | Double Eagles | 5000 | 5 | 100 | 00 | | |
| | 31 | Double Eagles | 9500 | 9 | 180 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 460 | 00 |
| | | Silver | | | | | | |
| May | 15 | Half Dollars | 38.000 | 8 | 4 | 00 | | |
| | 18 | Half Dollars | 10000 | 2 | 1 | 00 | | |
| | 26 | Half Dollars | 12000 | 2 | 1 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 6 | 00 |
| | | | | | Dollars | | 466 | 00 |

Branch Mint of the U. States New=Orleans
Treasurer's Office May 31st 1852.
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

H. Millspaugh acty
Assayer

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans June 7th 1852

Sir

I have the pleasure of transmitting monthly statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending Saturday 5th Inst.—

Your last shipment of Acid being large, I insured it provided it had not already been insured by you. will you please inform me.

Most respectfully
Your very obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G N Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

Supt. at N. Orleans

June 7/52

Rec'd

16 June '52

Mint of the United States
Philada 21 June 1852

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your report & assay coins for May 1852.

The acid which was sent to you was not insured by us.

The scales which I before referred to as in course of manufacture by Meyer have been finished; and upon examination have been purchased. They weigh 1000 oz., and will answer perfectly well in the coiners office. I shall now set Mr Meyer to work at a large scale for your Treasurers office in exact imitation of our own. It is quite impossible for us to manufacture one in the Mint; and Mr Peale is of opinion that Mr Meyers manufacture will answer your purpose perfectly well, while there can be no doubt that, if undertaken by him it will be much earlier ready for use. — The scale already sent is ornamented in bad taste; I advise you to have it repainted.

The Assayer gives the following report of the slips from ingots sent by you, viz No 130, 898.6; No 133, 899.8

No. 137, 899.8; No. 138, 899. I think it desirable, while the export of our coin is so considerable, that more than ordinary care should be taken in conforming the issues of the several Mints to standard. With a view to this object, & to our own & your satisfaction, I have therefore to request that from each ingot melt. of gold & silver, which may be passed to the coiner, slips may be forwarded to me. They may be charged to my account at their standard value. Your Treasr. should keep a memorandum of the weight, which from time to time should be passed to the credit of the ~~coiner~~ M. & R.; and as such pieces belong to his the Treasr. bullion ac, while the proceeds realized here are credited to his ordy ac, ~~such~~ it will be necessary to restore the amount from the Ordinary to the Coinage ac. Such, upon a hasty view at least, would appear to be the method of accounting; but I shall be glad to learn that this view seems to you correct.

The threecent advertisement was quite ~~so~~ proper in form, and I hope your sales will add largely to your ordinary fund.

Please hand the enclosed ac to the Treasurer.

Very respectfully
Your obdt. Servt
Geo N Eckert
Director

R. M. McAlpin Esq.
Supt. Br. New Orleans

Aſsays of Slips from New Orleans
Mint, June 10/52 —

#130 – 898.6
133 – 899.8
135 – 899.8
138 – 899.

J R Eckfeldt
Assayer

57

Supt at N. Orleans

21 June 1852

[illegible]

[illegible]

# Grounds of the estimates of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, for the fiscal year ending 30th. June 1853.

Estimated means and expenses for the 4th. quarter of 1851. and the 1st. and 2nd. quarters of 1852.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Probable means** | | |
| 1. Available balance in the hands of the Treas.r 30. Sep. 1851. | | $ 4.201.39 |
| 2. Appropriations undrawn and still available | | " 75.447.22 |
| 3. Estimated legal deductions from deposites | | " 33.351.39 |
| Total of means | | $ 113.000.00 |
| **Probable expenses** | | |
| 1. Salaries of Officers and Clerks | $ 12.975. | |
| 2. Wages of Workmen | " 25.125. | |
| 3. Wastage of the whole year 1851. | " 20.000. | |
| 4. Incidental & Contingent expenses, including fuel, materials, water rent, repairs and new machinery, also, $11.000.- for silver used by the Melter & Refiner, for the alloy of gold ingots | " 66.900. | |
| Total of expenses | | " 125.000.00 |
| Difference, being the probable excess of expenses over means, and which must be added to the appropriations for the next fiscal year | | $ 12.000.00 |

The items of Salaries and Wages are specific, and correspond to the appropriations; The above balance $12.000.- being a deficiency of means, caused by an excess of Wastage over that estimated for the fiscal year ending 30th. June 1852, and which cannot be supplied from the other particulars, the appropriation for "Incidental & Contingent Expenses", must be increased by this amount in the next year.

All the expenses of the current fiscal year, ending 30th. June 1852, including the cost of Acids, and Silver and copper alloy for gold, which is provided for by the legal deductions, may be set down at about $153.000.– with a coinage of about ten millions. – Assuming that a coinage of about twelve millions will be effected in the next year following, we must estimate the expenses of the year ending June 30th. 1853, including the wastage of the whole year 1852, adding also the deficiency of $12.000.– in the appropriations of the current fiscal year, as shown above,

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| at | | $191.000. |
| Subtracting therefrom, | | |
| Estimated legal deductions from deposits during the year | | " 38.000. |
| There will remain to be asked for, to cover the expenses of the fiscal year ending June 30th. 1853. namely: | | |
| For the half year ending Dec. 31. 1852, which includes wastage of the whole year 1852, also, repairs and new machinery | $96.500. | |
| For the half year ending June 30. 1853. as per estimate | " 56.500. | |
| Total to be asked for | | $153.000. |

Branch Mint of the United States
New Orleans, October 25. 1851.
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

153,000. expense,
45,000 est. deposits
108,000. on $10,000,000 for year

$100,000(.00107

Specification of appropriations required for the ordinary expenses of the Branch Mint of the United States at New Orleans, for the fiscal year ending June 30. 1853, supplementary to "Grounds of the estimates of the Branch Mint at New Orleans," for the fiscal year ending 30th. of June 1853.

| Specification of appropriations required for the whole fiscal year ending 30th. June 1853. | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Salaries of Officers and Clerks | | $ 17.300. |
| 2. Wages of Workmen | | " 35.700. |
| 3. Wastage of the whole year 1852 | | " 20.000. |
| 4. Incidental & Contingent Expenses | $ 82.000. | |
| Plus, excess of expenses over means from last year | " 12.000. | |
| | " 94.000. | |
| Less, estimated legal deductions | " 38.000. | " 56.000. |
| 5. New Machinery | | " 24.000. |
| Total appropriations required for the year ending as above | | $ 153.000. |

Branch Mint of the United States,
New Orleans, October 25. 1851.
Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Grounds of the Estimates
for the Branch Mint at
New Orleans for 1852-3

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# Specification of Appropriations required for the Mint of the United States & its Branches for the fiscal year ending June 30th 1853.

## 1. For the Mint of the United States.

| | |
|---|---|
| For salaries of officers & clerks . . . . | $22,200 |
| " wages of workmen . . . . . . . . . | 66,000 |
| " incidental & contingent expenses, including fuel, materials, stationery, water rent, repairs & wastage; in addition to other available funds . . . . . . . . . . . . | ~~42,500~~ 700 |
| Specimens of Ores & Coins, to be reserved at the Mint | 300 |
| Total appropriation required . . . . | $131,000 $89,700 |

## 2. For the Branch Mint at New Orleans.

| | |
|---|---|
| For salaries of officers & clerks | 17,300 |
| " wages of workmen | 35,700 |
| " incidental & contingent expenses including fuel, materials, stationery, water rent, repairs, & wastage, and an estimated deficit of $12000 at close of fiscal year ending June 30, 1852: — in addition to other available funds | 76,000 |
| " new machinery | 24,000 |
| | $153,000 |

(over)

### 3. For the Branch Mint at Charlotte N.C.

| | |
|---|---|
| For salaries of officers & clerks | 6,000 |
| " wages of workmen & watchmen | 4,100 |
| " incidental & contingent expenses, including fuel, materials, stationery repairs & wastage &c. | 1,500 |
| | $ 11,600 |

---

### 4. For the Branch Mint at Dahlonega Geo.

| | |
|---|---|
| For Salaries of officers & clerks | 6,000 |
| " wages of workmen | 3,600 |
| " incidental expenses & wastage | 1,400 |
| | $ 11,000 |

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans July 9th 1852

Sir

I beg to apologize for not forwarding the usual documents at the proper time, my excuse is very serious illness in my family which caused me to take them to the Sea Coast —

Enclosed you will please find Statement of the Condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending 3d Inst — also Statement of Deposits and Coinage for the Month of June and of Coins reserved for assay during the same period — The Coins will be forwarded by tomorrow Mail —

The Insurance Office charges 7 % on the lot of Acid, which has arrived safe I think it too much, will you please inform me what is the usual charge in your City. I will not pay till I hear from you —

In conformity with yours of 21st June I enclose slips of all the Melts of Ingots

both Silver & Gold passed since that period.
Mr Millspaugh complains of the Assay Scales and will address you on the subject —
Dr Hort applied some three years since for a new Scale which was promised but none came to hand —

The Machinist in the Coining Dept not being very busy Mr Devall has made a very superior Scale for his use. at a very trifling cost. Dr Bowyer requests that I should give him the Scale made by Mr Mayer — Mr B requires it. and I shall accommodate him —

Have not disposed of any three cents pieces since my last —

Small Gold Coins being scarce I am making nothing but Quarter Eagles —

We lost our Blacksmith Mr Sheed one of the best workmen we had by the explosion of the St James —

Most respectfully
Your very obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G N Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Branch Mint
New Orleans
9 July 1852

Recd
17 July 1852.

92185
83895
67044
1072.70
9.86
1082.56
22.25
1060.31
1060.29

32.1472)400,000 (12443
78530
64294
142360
128588
137720
91320

2.6789
32.1468

20.46511
10232556

40930
93022

157024
2908377
2902272
1810063

750

720.

18 400/000

Branch Mint of the U. States
At New Orleans
Assayers Office 10th July 1852

Sir

I transmit you herewith Gold assay Slips from the following Melts, No 153. title 900-5, 154 & 155 title 900, 156 title 899-5, also, assay Slips from three Silver Melts, four rounds Each, Nos 125 to 128 inclusive, Title 898-6. Nos 129 to 132 title 899, Nos 133 to 136 title 900, —

I regret Exceedingly, that the assay Slips I transmitted you on the 31st May, were not found by the assayers of the Phila Mint to agree with those made by Myself, I cannot impute the variance in our assays to any other cause, than the assay Scale and weights that I am now using, and which have been in constant use for the last 14 or 15 years, I have not a weight less than a th, consequently when I report a fraction of a th, I have to exercise my judgement alone, Prof Hort (the late assayer) for the last four years of ~~his~~ life was continually complaining of the scale & weights. By my request

Sect Kouzanos the M & R, has examined the scale & weights, and witnessed my working with them, and I have requested him to address you on the subject, I hope the superintendent will make these facts known, so that there may be obtained for this Mint, a new Assay scale, and a complete set of weights,

Very Respectfully
Your obt Svt
H. Millspaugh actg
Assayer

U. S. Branch Mint, New Orleans,
Melter & Refiner's Office July 10th/52

Sir,

Some days ago, Mr. Millspaugh, the Acting Aſsayer, requested me to witneſs his operations and to examine his aſsay-balance and other apparatus, so that I might be enabled to give an opinion thereon, which he desired, because the duplicate aſsay slips aſsayed in Philadelphia had been reported as differing materially from his titles. I had on several occasions before, witneſsed Mr. Millspaugh's aſsaying, and then, as now, I was convinced that his manipulations were exceedingly nice and accurate, and could not easily be improved upon; my attention was therefore attracted to the aſsay-balance, the condition of which readily accounts for the discrepancies of the reports of the Pha. mint & our own. I know, that the late Dr. Hort complained for years of the uncertainty of his balance, and on his request, Mr. Jos. M. Kennedy, then Superintendent of this branch, authorised me to represent to, and urge upon the Director, (Dr. R. M. Patterson), the neceſsity of obtaining for us, speedily, a new balance, as I was then going to the North on busineſs for the mint here.

Whilst I was at the mint in Pha. I done, as I had been instructed. Dr. P. at once concluded that the new balance was necessary, but there was none to be had in the country, and Mr. Peale thought that the balances imported from Europe could be relied upon only in very few instances. Dr. Patterson therefore resolved to order one from Saxton & Webb. It is possible that Mr. Peale may remember what I have stated above, and whether the balance has been ordered or not. The balance in use in the Assay Dept. at present, is said to have been very excellent when new, and Dr. Hort accounted for its deterioration, by supposing that the constant vibration of the building, which in the upper story is very great, especially during the working of the mint machinery, and the passage of vehicles in the adjacent streets, had dulled the knife-edges of the balance. It is certain that at present it is no longer reliable, the vibration of the beam after having being loaded with 0º.500 (i.e. 1000 gold wt) and put in equilibrium, caused by an addition 0º.0005 (i.e. 0.001 g.w.) is so small, that it is impossible to estimate less than its half with any degree of confidence. The weights both gold & silver, have been in use since the establishment of this branch, some of the good weights have been lost, and must be replaced by their equivalents of the silver weights. Moreover, the abrasion of the weights during so long a time has rendered them also somewhat inaccurate.

Finally I would suggest that if it were possible to obtain a good balance from the Pha mint for a short time, ours might be sent to the makers (Saxton & Webb) to be repaired).

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
M. F. Bonzano
Melter & Refiner

To R. M. McAlpin Esq
Superintendent
U. S. Branch Mint, N. O.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans July 17th 1852

Sir

I have the honor of enclosing statements of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending on Yesterday — Also enclosed the [illegible] Remittance in mine of 9th Inst –

We will commence work on our other Steamer starts only next week –

Very respectfully
Your obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supt

Dr. G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

Supt. Branch Mint

N. Orleans

July 17. 1852

Rcd. July 26th —

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia 17 July 1852.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your report & assay coins for June, together with slips from ingots.

The defect in the assayers balance should certainly be remedied, and I therefore recommend the purchase of a new one. Dr. Jos. W. Farnum, late of the Dahlonega Mint, and an accomplished assayer, has lately purchased a balance for this Mint in Paris. If Mr. Millspaugh so requests, I will order a balance through Dr. Farnum.

The balance for the Treasurers office is under construction by Meyer. He has the patterns of our own Treasurers scale, and will imitate it exactly.

Very respectfully yours

Geo N Eckert

Director

~~Jott~~

R. M. McAlpin Esq
Supt. &c.
New Orleans.

To/

Supt of N. Orleans Mint

17 July 1852

July 1852

Philada July 19/52

Dear Sir

On April 21st 1851 we shipped 205 Carboys Nitric Acid to Branch Mint New Orleans, ~~upon~~ which Mr Patterson wished us to have insured, the amount of the bill was $1971.20 and we were instructed to effect an insurance on $2400. which was done at the rate of 4½ % since that we have not insured any—

Very respectfully
Nicolas Lennig & Co
p C. H. Spain

C A Eckert Esq.

From

N Lennig & Co

19 July 1852

G. N. Eckert Esqr.
U. S. Mint

Mint U. States
Philada July 19. 185[illegible]

Sir,

Upon inquiry with Messrs W. Lennig & Co in regard to the rate of insurance on Nitric Acid from here to New Orleans, I learn that they have not had any insured since April 1851. They then shipped 205 Carboys, amounting to \$1471.32. Insurance effected on \$2400 00/100 at the rate of 4½ per cent.

Very Respectfully Yours

Geo N Eckert
Director

Col R. M. McAlpin
Supt. Branch Mint
N.O.

87

Supt. at N. Orleans

19 July 1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New-Orleans Aug. 5th 1852

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith the Statement of deposites & Coinage at this Branch Mint during the month of July, and a statement of gold and silver coins reserved for assay, (amounting to $259.75,) during the same month, which are also herewith transmitted

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
M. F. Bonzano
Acting Supt.

To Dr. Geo. N. Eckert,
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia, Pa.

Branch Mint U.S.
New Orleans July 24th 1852

Sir.

I have the pleasure of enclosing statement of the condition of this Branch at the end of week yesterday.

Your esteemed favor of 17th inst is just to hand, Mr Millspaugh is delighted at the prospect of a New Scale and requests you will order one at your earliest convenience—

Most respectfully
Your very obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr Geo N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia
Pa

From

Supt. at N. Orleans
24 July 1852

Recd.
3 Aug 52

August
1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New-Orleans July 31st 1852

Sir,

The Superintendent having been obliged by reason of sickness in his family, to absent himself from the city for a few days, has authorised me to act for him.

I have the honor, to transmit you herewith, the weekly statement of the transactions of this branch, as customary.

Most Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
M. F. Bonzano
Acting Supt.

To Dr. Geo. N. Eckert,
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia, Pa

From
M. F. Bonzano,
Act. Supt. at
New Orleans
31 July 52

Recd
Aug 9/52

U. S. Branch Mint
New-Orleans Aug. 3d 1852

Sir-

I have the honor to enclose herewith the Statement of deposites & Coinage at this Branch Mint during the month of July, and a statement of gold and silver coins reserved for assay, (amounting to $259.75,) during the same month, which are also herewith transmitted

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
M. F. Bonzano
Acting Supt.

To Dr. Geo. N. Eckert,
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia, Pa.

From
Actg. Supt. at
New Orleans
3 aug. 1852

11 aug. 52

Mint United States
Philada. Augt. 16 1852

Sir,

In consequence of the occasional occurrence of iridium-osmium in gold from California, and its liability to pass into our gold coinage, of which in fact we have had complaints from England, a precaution for ~~separating~~ parting out that substance was adopted in our melting and refining department some time ago; and it is highly important that the same process should be pursued in your branch of the mint, if indeed it has not been already. — As this is a substance which does not separate from gold in any ordinary refining process, the only ~~an~~ effectual method of getting rid of it is to take advantage of its ~~high~~ superior specific gravity, and allow it to subside or settle down, in the melting-pot, ~~in a~~ while the gold is ~~liquid~~ in a state of fusion. This may be done at two stages of your operations; first in melting the gold with silver for granulation, and afterwards in melting the bars to be made into ingots. Care is to be taken, of course, not to dip too closely; ~~and the remnants~~

~~are to be specially treated~~ we leave in the bottom of the pot ~~about~~ as much as would make three or four ingots. These remnants being reserved, and treated with further meltings when convenient, will enable you to get part of the gold away in good Condition, and to concentrate the iridium; which finally can be treated by the nitro-muriatic process, to recover all the gold.

By this method of subsidence, our ingots have been kept ~~very~~ clear of this substance, which is very injurious to the quality of the gold for coining and manufacturing purposes, and has subjected our merchants to a serious loss and vexation in the British bullion market.

Very respectfully
Your Obdt Servt
(Signed) Geo N. Eckert
Director

R. M. McAlpin Esq
Supd't Branch Mint
New Orleans

P. S. An assay balance was forwarded by Adams & Co express from here for your use, which we think will prove satisfactory. You might as well forward yours to this mint, and have it repaired.

14,131.95
42.88
14,989.07

To/

Supt. at N. Orleans

14 Aug. 1852

1116

Branch Mint of the U. States
New Orleans August 20th. 1852

Sir

Enclosed herewith I have the honor to transmit you, my Official Bond, for your approval, On account of the absence of L. Hunton Esqr U. S. District Attorney, I have not been able to obtain his certificate, I have been informed by his partner E. A. Bradford Esqr. that he is on a visit to the State of Kentuckey and will not return to this City before the month of November,

I have the Honor to remain
With much respect
Your very obt Sert
H. Millspaugh
Assayer

To
Dr George N. Eckert
Director, Mint of the U States
Philadelphia

From/

Howard Millspaugh
Assayer B.M.
New Orleans

20 aug. 1852

Recd
28 aug. 1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New-Orleans Aug 21st 1852

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith the reserved assay pieces as per enclosed report of the Assayer.

Very Respectfully
M. F. Bonzano
Acting Supt.

To Dr. Geo. N. Eckert,
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

From
Actg. Supt. at N. Orleans
21st Aug. 1852

Recd
30 Aug 1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Sept 2d 1852

Sir

I have the honor of enclosing Statement of the Deposits and Coinage at this Branch during the Month of August —

The assay Coins will be forwarded by tomorrows Mail —

Our receipts are small and in consequence our Coinage is ditto —

The Telegraph reports the Appropriation Bill as having passed. I trust and hope the Amt we asked for was granted —

I Most respy,
Your very obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

From
Branch Mint N. Orleans
2 Sept. 1852

Recd.
10 Sept 1852

September 1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Sept 10th 1852

Sir

I have the pleasure of enclosing statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending yesterday— Our Silver Stack is finished but the Furnaces not quite—

Being much in want of means I have made a requisition for Twenty six Thousand five Hundred Dollars, "I do not know as yet the amt appropriated for our Contgt fund" if it meets with your approbation you will please forward to Mr Corwin,

The Treasurer cannot well make his Quarterly returns unless we have the money to pay Workmen &c—

Most respectfully
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Branch Mint
New Orleans
10 Sept 1852

Recd
20 Sept 1852

Copy.

Branch Mint, U States New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office, Septr 11, 1852

Sir.

Be pleased to make a requisition upon the Secretary of the Treasury for Twenty six thousand seven hundred dollars, to meet the current expenses of this Branch Mint, for the 3rd quarter of 1852 from the following appropriations viz

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Salaries of officers & clerks | $ | 4.325.00 |
| Wages of workmen | " | 8.375.00 |
| Incidental & contingent Expr | " | 14.000.00 |
| | $ | 26.700.00 |

17,300
33,500
56,000

Very respectfully
Signed
Wm DesBuys
Treasr

To
R M McAlpin Esq
Superintendent

Treasurer Br Mint. U.S.
New Orleans. 11th Sep. 1852

Copy of letter to Superintd
asking for 26.700. dolls.
to pay expenses this Br
Mint for quarter endg
30 Sept. 1852

Branch Mint. U. States
New Orleans. Augt. 31. 1852

Statet Coins reserved
for assay in August
1852

To/

Secy of Treasury
Washington

11 Sep. 1852.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Sept 18th 1852

Sir

I have the pleasure of enclosing statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending yesterday.

Business very dull, I have directed the coinage of small Coins, Gold Dollars, & Five & Ten Cent pieces

Most respectfully
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G N Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

B. Mint N. Orleans

18 Sept 1862

Recd

27 Sep. 62

To

Supt at N. Orleans

20 Sept. 1852

Mint of the United States
Philada. 20 Sept. 1852

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your report & assay coins for August, as also, from time to time, your weekly statements which are quite satisfactory.

Your requisition for expenses is also receivd, this morning, and will be forwarded to the Department. I regret to perceive, however, from the appropriation bill as it passed, that the amount asked for your Mint, under the head of Contingencies, was not granted. The appropriations actually made are, for salaries $17,300; wages $35,700; incidentals, in addition to other available funds, $45,200; new machinery $24,000; for proportion of paving bill, to be paid to Thomas Ayres $1245.40. I wrote early in April to the Department, enclosing the correspondence from you enforcing the necessity of an appropriation according to your estimates, but it has proved of no avail. I trust that, in consequence of the diminution of your deposits, you may find it possible to reduce your expenditure to a correspondence with your means.

I have to request that you will forward to me, during the early part of next month, your estimates for the next fiscal year. Be good enough, also, to send without delay, a list of dies required for 1853.

If you have receivd the coin scales & assay balance please inform me.

Enclosed is my account with the Treasurer for the quarter ending 31st ult: which I will thank you to pass over to him.

very respectfully
your obdt servt

Director

R. M. McAlpin Esq
Supt. &c
New Orleans.

Mint of the United States
Philada. 20 Sept. 1852

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose a requisition from the Branch Mint at New Orleans for expenses during the present quarter.

The Superintendent states that he does not yet know the amount appropriated for their contingent fund, and I observe has drawn for rather more than the proportion payable, for the quarter, under this head. If the requisition is defective, on this account, I trust that you will authorise to be forwarded whatever may be properly payable, as he states that they "are much in want of means."

Very respectfully
your obdt servt

G. N. Eckert.
Director

Hon. Thos. Corwin
Secy of the Treasy

To Secy of the Treasy

20 Sept. 1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Sept 25th 1852

Sir

Enclosed please find Statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending yesterday —

Did Congress do anything relation to our request for $25.000 — extra Contingent for deficiency —

I am economizing all I can in every department —

Most respectfully
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supt

Dr Geo N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

7000
630
350
35
6685

2500
2000
2000
2000
2000
10,500
5400
15,9
2000
17,900

2209

5400
15
169
17,400

115.04
11504
92032
135747
15.083

2500
4000
2000
2100
2000
1800
1500
1500
17,300

Copy

Supt. at N. Orleans
25 Sept 52

Recd
3 Oct 52

October
1852

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Octo 9th 1852

Sir

I have the pleasure of enclosing Statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending yesterday—

Business continues dull— nearly all the Gold Dust belonging to Passengers arriving in our City is shipped to New York prior to their leaving California, necessarily our receipts are small—

Most respectfully
Your myobt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Branch Mint
New Orleans
9 Oct 1852

Recd
18 Oct '52

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Sept 30th 1852

Sir

I enclose the requisition of the Coiner for Dies required by him for the year Eighteen Hundred and Fifty Three "1853" —

Viz

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Gold, | Double Eagle | 6 | Heads |
| | Eagles | 6 | do |
| | Half Eagles | 4 | do |
| | Quarter Eagles | 6 | do |
| | Gold Dollar | 6 | with date |
| Silver | Half Dollars | 6 | Heads |
| | Quarter Dollar | 4 | do |
| | Dimes | 6 | do |
| | Half Dimes | 6 | do |
| | Three Cents | 6 | with date |
| | Total — | 56 | |

As soon as our estimates for next year are ready will forward —

Most respectfully
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

The Scales are at hand
Mr Millspaugh thinks
they are not so good as
our old ones —

From

Br. Mint, New Orleans

30 Sept 1852

Rec'd

8 Oct 1852

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans Octo 16th 1852

Sir

I have the pleasure of enclosing statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending yesterday.

I also enclose you Specifications of Appropriations required for the ordinary expenses of this Branch Mint for the Fiscal Year ending June 30th 1854.

Should our receipts not be greatly larger than at present, we will not require the Amount asked for, as you perceive we ground our estimates upon a Coinage of Ten Million Dollars — But it being impossible to conjecture what Amount of Gold Dust will be brought to this City during the ensuing year, we have deemed it better to ask for too much rather than too little. Knowing well how difficult it is to get Congress to pass an extra Appropriation Bill.

And again should there be a surplus it is wanted to make up the deficiency of long standing in our Contingent Fund —

You will remember about a year since

a publication was made showing the difference in the Cost of Manufacture in Philadelphia and New Orleans proportionable to the Amount Coined in said City; it was of course largely in favor of your Mint—

The majority of persons returning from California with Dust, are uneducated, and are led to believe that the excess of Cost of Coinage is to be paid by Depositors and not by the General Government, A very intelligent Gentleman Mr Robinson who is at the head of a large Banking House in "San Francisco" assured me he had himself been deceived— This is a great, and I think a sufficient reason to account for our light receipts—

We are endeavoring to correct the evil not only that we may be more actively employed; but likewise relieve you from the excessive pressure—

Another reason or cause of our light receipts is: That the Opposition Steamers from Chagres to New York as low as 5$ Five Dollars and the Mail Line 20$ Twenty Dollars, whereas the Passage from Chagres to New Orleans has never been less than 35$ Thirty Five Dollars and usually 50$ Fifty Dollars, this difference of Price of Passage is of course a great desideratum

to men who have worked so hard, and gone
so far to procure as the greater number have
but a small quantity of Gold Dust —

Mr Duvall the Coiner is anxious to commence
the construction of the Machinery, and is now
drawing plans &c. all of which I will submit
to you —

Most respectfully
Your very obt Servt
A. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt. at N. Orleans
16 Oct 1852

Recd
26 Oct 52

```
−   8   +   3
    8       7
    6       4
    8
    8
    8
    6
    5
   10
    3
    4
    8
    8
    1
    8
    4
  ---
  103
   14
19)89(④
   76
   --
   13
```

Tr/

Br. Mint N. Orleans

19 Oct 1852

Mint of the United States
Philada. 19 Oct 1852

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your report & assay coins for Sept., and also of the list of dies required for 1853

The inquiry made by you whether any appropriation was made for deficiencies at your Mint I am not positively able to answer, not having any copy of the bill, but it is believed that no such appropriation was made. I trust you will not be too much straitened in your resources.

We have commenced refining, at this mint, to 990 thousandths and have made a reduction in the charge for silver alloy in consequence. Will you be good enough to report whether the Melter & Refiner, at your branch, will find any difficulty in refining to the same standard, and whether the additional expense would exceed the additional return of silver. It is, of course, desirable that a uniform quantity of silver should be left, as alloy, at your Mint & this.

Permit me to suggest whether it might not be politic to hold some conference with the house, or agent, of Adams & Co. with a view to an extension of the sale of three cent pieces in your region. Our own sale of these coins was comparatively inconsiderable until that house, by ~~of~~ advertising, and placing them for sale at different agencies, attracted a general public attention; and now the demand can hardly be supplied by us. It should seem that in the South, where the copper coin does not circulate, a small silver piece like this ought to find general favor. I refer to this matter as opening to you a possible resource for income if your means become inadequate. You must now have, in the refinery, a large amount of silver that could be spared for this coinage, so that you would not have to pay (as we do) a premium on the purchase of bullion. The profits of the coinage would, therefore, be only subject to deduction for freight on their distribution. If you could circulate $100,000 worth of your bullion in such coin you would probably gain some 15 or 18 thousand dollars to your ordinary fund, and be in a great measure relieved from any difficulty growing out of your inadequate appropriation.

very respectfully

Geo. N. Eckert

Director

R. M. McAlpin Esq
Supt. Branch Mint
New Orleans.

P. S. The assayer gives the following returns on your melts. It would indicate that the melts are running rather too low.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| * 153 | 899.2 | * 159 | 899.4 | * 165 | 899.2 |
| 4 | 899.2 | 60 | 900.3 | 6 | 899.2 |
| 5 | 899.4 | 1 | 899.5 | 7 | 900.7 |
| 6 | 898.2 | 2 | 899. | 8 | 898.9 |
| 7 | 899.2 | 3 | 899.7 | 9 | 900.4 |
| 8 | 899.2 | 4 | 899.6 | 70 | 899.2 |
| | | | | 1 | 899.6 |

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Octo 20th 1862

Sir

I have the pleasure of enclosing statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending yesterday.

I also enclose Copy of a Letter from the Assayer, and a quantity of Assay Slips, Gold and Silver described in his letter —

I have not as yet been enabled to see the Agent of Adams & Co, relative to the Three Cent Coins; but will give it immediate attention —

I have received a communication from the Melter and Refiner, a Copy of which I enclose — The Treasurer is not in the Mint at present but I presume he has a considerable quantity of Silver in his Vault —

Most respectfully
Your obt Servt
A. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt. at N. Orleans
30 Oct. 1852

Rec'd
8 Nov. 1852

November 1852

Copy

Branch Mint of the U.S.
at New Orleans
Assayer's Office 30th Oct. 1852

Sir

I have the honor to transmit you herewith assay slips from twelve gold melts, Nos 172 to 184 inc. the titles of which, as reported by me are marked on the wrappers, Also assay slips from six silver melts Nos 153 @ 180 inc. also the titles reported, are marked on the wrappers,

I take this opportunity to acknowledge recpt. of assay Balance and weights forwarded by U.S. mint for assay dept. here. The glasses in case I found on reception to have been all broken which I have had carefully replaced after having carefully adjusted the balance, myself and other officers of the mint, proceeded to a minute trial of its accuracy and found it no more exact or delicate than the one in use at this Branch for many years.

Consequently I have continued to use the old one, preferring it as being much more convenient to work and equally as exact as the one forwarded.

As regards the variation that appears to exist in my assays and those of the assayer of the U.S. mint I cannot account for in any other way, than the great superiority of his balance over mine, for I perceive that in his reports he is enabled to shew 1/10 - 2/10 and indeed all fractional parts of a m. Whereas I find that in my weights recently received there are none less than 1/2 m. And indeed on both balances in my possession the 1/2 m is scarcely perceptible and I think it is needless for me here to add, that in all my assays, the greatest possible care has always been taken in order to arrive at correctness, and a corresponding tally with those made by the assayer of the mother mint.

With great respect
Yr obt Servt
Signed, Hillis Paugh
Assayer

Br Mint New Orleans
October 30th 1852

Copy of letter from
Assayer reporting
Assay slip letter
Assay scales etc

Copy

U. S. Branch Mint, N Orleans
Melter & Refiner's Office
Octr. 30th 1852

Sir,

In Compliance with your request, I have the honor to Submit the following remarks on the subjects of the letter of the Director dated Octr. 19th. I Shall find no difficulty whatsoever in refining up to 990 m having indeed done so for Some time past, nor will there be any additional expense, my fine gold generally averages from 988–996 but the limit of the Silver alloy having been placed up 20 m, I occasionally melted up other bullion, Such as mixed coins, with my melts, in order to bring the silver alloy nearer to the limit prescribed, So that the silver title of the gold melts runs from 14–20 m.

I would also remark, that there is no bullion in my hands for the Coinage of three Cent pieces, as may be seen from inspection of my Silver balance Sep 30th which only amounted to Oz 39.214.22 of which at least 25000 Oz was fine Silver, the rest in other bullion & Sweeps. When we work to our utmost capacity, say 4000 oz refined gold per day, I should require nearly 80,000 oz fine Silver in order to work to the greatest advantage. I take this opportunity to offer a few remarks on the occasional presence of irid-osmium in Califor. gold, on which subject the Director has addressed under date of Aug^t 16^th 1852, and which you communicated to me soon after that came.

My attention was called to the presence of that alloy in some varieties of gold, by Prof Booth some two years ago, and I consequently exerted my self from that time on to prevent its getting into the ingots, in which I have succeeded effectually by adopting a process nearly the same as that recommended by the Director and followed in the Mint at Philad^a.

When the fine gold is melted, it is not poured out, but dipped with a small ~~[illegible]~~ crucible, thus leaving the irid-osmium ample time to settle in the bottom of the pots.

This substance eventually gets into the sweep, when its presence has been detected by the French sweep-smelters, and has caused them considerable trouble in assaying our sweeps as has been stated by Dr Gainum. — By melting the remnants of gold Containing irid-osmium — and keeping them in a state of fusion for some time this alloy will settle down, and after pouring out the gold very slowly will adhere to the pot

I intend to treat the next remnants with Nitro muriatic acid as recommended by the director, when I shall have occasion to report to you the result,

Very respectfully
Signed, M F Bonzano
Melter & Refiner

To

R M McAlpin Esq
Superintendent

Branch Mint, N. Orleans
Octo 30. 1852

Copy of letter from
Melter & Refiner
touching irid-osmium
in Cala gold &
Refining to 990ths
& 3d prices

Branch Mint U.S.
New Orleans Nov^r 10th 1862

Sir

I send herewith Statements of Deposits and Coinage at this Branch during the Month of October. 1862. I also send by this days Mail the Coins reserved for assay during the same period —

Genl DeBuys the Treasurer is very much opposed to my direction of the Coinage of small Coins. he says it is too much trouble and risk to pay them out!

I differ with the Treasurer, and you would greatly oblige me by giving me positive orders to Manufacture small Coins, say Gold Dollars, Qr Eagles Hf Eagles and ~~Dim~~ + Ten cent pieces. We have ample time and the force to accomplish it —

Most respy
Yo obt Servt
A. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr J. R. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
R. M. McAlpin, Esq
N. Orleans 10 Nov 52

18 Nov '52

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans Nov 6th 1852

Sir

I have the honor of enclosing Statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending yesterday.

I have also to inform you that I have this day shipped to Dr J W Harrum at Havre per Ship "Heidelberg" 64 Sixty Four Bgs M & Refining Gold & Silver Sweeps amounting to $10.106.92. and 5. five Barrels & 1. one Cask Coining Sweeps "an accumulation of some seven years" amounting to $3.777.97 — I have insured the above with the addition of Ten per Cent @ 1/4 %—

Encd a Letter from Mr Harrum recommending me to make the Shipment to Havre — and stating that he had made some very satisfactory sales for your Mint.

Most respy
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpine
Supdt

Dr G N Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

Supt Branch Mint
New Orleans
6 Nov 1852

13 Nov 52

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans Nov 13th 1852

Sir

I have the pleasure of enclosing Statement of the Condition of this Branch at the Close of the week ending yesterday.

Do you hand over to Adams & Co the three Cent Coins, and await their sales before receiving payment—

Most respy
Yr obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt. at N. Orleans
13 Nov 1862

Recd
22 Nov '62

# Statement of Gold and Silver Coins reserved for Assaying at the Branch Mint of the United States, New-Orleans, during the Month of November 1852.

| Date | | Deliveries | Deliveries | Pieces. | Value. | | Total Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Dollars | Cts. | Dollars | Cts. |
| 1852 | | Gold. | | | | | | |
| November | 20 | Quarter Eagles | 62.000 | 62 | 155 | 00 | | |
| " | 30 | Double Eagles | 10.000 | 10 | 200 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 355 | 00 |
| | | Silver | | | | | | |
| Nov. | " | No delivery | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 355 | 00 |

Br. Mint of the U. States
New Orleans November 30th 1852

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer.

H. Millspaugh
Assayer

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans Decr 3d 1852

Sir

I have the pleasure of enclosing herewith Statements of the Deposits and Coinage at this Branch Mint for the Month of November 1852, also of Coins reserved for assay during the same period —

The assay Coins will be forwarded by this days Mail —

Our receipts of Gold Dust continue light —

Most respectfully
Yo mo obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director of the
Mint
Philadelphia
Pa

From

Sup. at N. Orleans

3 Dec 52

Recd
11 Dec '52

Mint of the United States
Philada. 4 Dec 1852

Sir,

I send by to days mail, boxes No. 1, 12 & 15 of your supply of dies for 1853; the remainder will be forwarded from day to day.

Your report for October & the assay coins have been received. As the demands upon your Mint are now but small, you will do well to order the coinage of small pieces, both gold & silver, unless the depositors shall positively request the larger kinds.

With regard to the distribution of three cent pieces, you will receive payment before the coin it leaves the Mint, whether the carriers purchase for others or for themselves. In many cases Adams & Co. provide themselves, here, with a stock to supply their different offices, but they always pay for the same, in advance, on the same footing with other purchasers. By opening various offices of supply they have created a demand which operates to their advantage inasmuch as they receive increased amounts for freight. Of course, whether they purchase for themselves, or others, they are entitled to an allowance for freight.

If you should be unable to create a demand for three cents, I may perhaps obtain permission from the Department to transfer, here, your surplus silver, either uncoined, or coined. Pray inform what number of standard ounces can be spared by the Treasurer: your enclosure from the Melter & Refiner shows that he has no greater quantity than is requisite for the refining.

On the first of January you will request the Melter & Refiner to part his argentiferous gold to 990 thousandths; and from and after that date you will have the depositors charged with one-hundred & tenth (1/110) of the standard weight of their deposit at 4½ cents an ounce, for silver alloy, and 10/110 ths of the same, at 2 cents, for copper alloy; these charges, & that for parting, being of course only on deposits whose net return of silver reaches $5.- after deductions.

At the close of the year, I will thank you to have prepared & forwarded a statement of your coinage & deposits during the year, discriminating the sources whence the latter were derived. Send also a statement of your assay coins reserved, in each month.

very respectfully
your obdt Servt.
G N Eckert
Director

R. M. McAlpin Esq
Supt. of Br. Mint
New Orleans.

To
Supt at Ne Orleans

4 Dec 1852

December 1852

Mint of the United States
Philada. 14 Dec 1852

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your report & assay coins for the month of November, and also your weekly statements.

By this days mail, and by former mails, have been forwarded dies numbered 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 20, 21, 22 & 23.

I enclose my account with your Treas. for the quarter ending Nov. 30. you perceive that a very small sum remains in my hands. Mr. Meyers outstanding bill for scales (which have been forwarded, as per enclosed B/L) is over six hundred dollars. I say forward about $1000, to meet demands between now and the annual assay, when your reserved coins will be applicable.

Very respectfully
your obdt servt
G N Eckert
Director

R. M. McAlpin, Esq. Supt.
New Orleans.

To

Supt. at N. Orleans

14 Dec 1852

Mint of the United States,
Philada 15 Jany 1852.

Sir,

Your communications of 18th ~~ult~~ 22d & 30th ult have been received, with the enclosures, and the assay coins.

If you can, without trespassing too much on the time of your clerks, furnish me with a statement 1st of the cost of your Mint Building, 2d of the furniture & fixtures & machinery of the same, I shall be much obliged. I think it probable that you may have had occasion to furnish the statement on some former occasion & may readily refer to it. I wish to know the cost anterior to commencing operations.

Very respy Your obt Servt

G N Eckert
Director

R. M. McAlpin Supt
New Orleans.

Branch Mint U.S.
New Orleans Dec 20th 1852

Sir

I have the pleasure of enclosing Statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending 17th Inst.

I have also to acknowledge the receipt

Box No 15 Containing 2. Two Hf Dollar Head Dies
Box No 12. Contg 2. Two Gold Dollar Date Dies
" " 1. " 2. Two Dble Eagle Head do
" " 21. " 2. Two Dime do do
" " 18. " 2. Two Qr Dollar do do
" " 14. " 2. Two Gold Dollar date do
" " 20. " 2. Two Dime Head Dies
" " 7. " 2. Two Hf Eagle do do
" " 4. " 2. Two Eagle do do
" " 3. " 2. Two Dble Eagle do do
" " 5. " 2. Two Eagle do do
" " 8. " 2. Two Hf Eagle do do
" " 13. " 2. Two Gold Dollar date do
" " 9. " 2. Two Qr Eagle Head Dies
all for the year 1853.

Most respy
Your my obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

Supt. at N. Orleans

20 Dec 1852

Recd

27 Dec 52

U. S. Branch Mint, New-Orleans
Melter & Refiner's Office Dec 21st 1852

Sir,

Having been shown by you the letter of the Director, and also the telegraphic despatch addressed by him to the Treasurer, I beg leave, to make at your request, the following remarks:

The alloy in gold coins was fixed by Sect 8 of the act of Jan 18. 1837, at $\frac{100}{1000} = \frac{1}{10}$, this $\frac{1}{10}$ to be of copper and silver, provided that the silver do not exceed one half of the whole alloy. Since the great influx of gold from California, the silver in the alloy has been made the subject of special regulation by the director. He therefore ordered about two years since that the silver in the alloy should not exceed $\frac{2}{100}$; and from the 1st of January next it is to be reduced to $\frac{1}{100}$. Our gold coins will then contain:

of gold, 900 parts
" copper 90 "
" silver 10 "
1000.

The Melter and Refiner ought therefore to be credited for the silver actually left in the gold coins by him, i.e. $\frac{1}{100}$ of the weight of his ingots. The quantity of copper required for the ingots will be $\frac{9}{100}$.

By the instructions of the Director, the charge to be made to depositors and the corresponding credit to the Melter & Refiner, is to be $\frac{1}{100}$; differing from the ~~the~~ actual quantity to be contained in the ingots by $\frac{1}{1100}$ of the wt. of the ingots, for, $\frac{1}{100} - \frac{1}{110} = \frac{1}{1100}$.

Inasmuch as the law does not provide for any compensation of the loss sustained on the working of the silver used in refining, I would respectfully suggest a representation of the foregoing facts to the director, with a view of obtaining from him the permission to credit the Melter & Refiner with the full amount of his silver alloy.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
A. F. Bonzano
Melter & Refiner

To R. M. McAlpin, Esq.
Supt. of the U. S. Branch Mint
N. O.

Enclosure N. O. Supt. 29 Dec 82

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans Decr 21st 1852

Sir

I have delayed a few days replying to yours of 4th Inst awaiting a report from the Melter & Refiner, which I enclose to you without comment. I should be pleased to hear from you relative to the Alloy to be used and how credited and charged —

You are aware by our weekly reports that our Bullion fund is now only $500.000 — Some six weeks since Col Raiford Indian Agent had Drafts on the Sub Treasury to the Amount of $1.400000 and required considerable Silver. The order of Transfer to the Treasurer from the Bullion Fund to the Sub Treasury not specifying Gold or Silver and having the latter in the Vaults Genl De Buys transferred $50.000. which Amount with the transfer of $50.000 previously to accomodate Col Dunnin Indian Agent "approved by the Secty of the Treasury" will explain why we have not more Silver.

Mess Adams & Co do not express any desire to speculate in Three Cent coins. there being no demand for them South, except for Post offices.

Will you be kind enough to send us a copy of your Assayers report with the charges specified — in Blank —

Most respectfully
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G N Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

Sup. at New Orleans

21 Dec 1852

Recd
29 Dec 1852

Branch Mint U.S. New Orleans
Treasurer's Office, Decr. 28" 1852

Dr G. W. Eckert
Director of the Mint U.S.
Philadelphia:

Sir.

I am requested by the Superintendent to transmit for account of this Branch Mint One thousand dollars, I send check of J Corning & Co on Thos Biddle & Co No 1313 for the amount which please credit accordingly.

Very respectfully
Wm. De Buys
Treasurer

From

Wm DeBuys, Treasr

New Orleans

28 Dec 1853

Recd

7 Jan '53

January 1853

Mint of the United States
Philada. 29 Dec 1852

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 21st with the enclosure of the same date from Dr. Bonzano, in which he states a difficulty in his silver account, based on the new charges for silver alloy. Upon this subject I will remark that he has erroneously assumed that his ingots must contain one hundredth of the standard weight as silver alloy. If that were the case, he would of course suffer by being credited but $\frac{1}{110}$ths. The fact is, however, that his ingots must contain not more than $\frac{1}{110}$th of silver alloy; and being credited for the same amount, no difficulty can arise.

He will perceive that by parting to 990 thousandths, the silver left in the refined mass is 10 thousandths at the most. If that mass be alloyed down to 900 by copper, the silver in the new mass thus constituted becomes $\frac{1}{110}$th. It was $\frac{1}{100}$th of the refined gold, but is $\frac{1}{110}$th of the standard gold produced therefrom. If therefore Dr. Bonzano should refine to 990, he could not make his ingots with $\frac{1}{100}$th as silver alloy unless he actually introduced silver.

When the parting was to 980 th, a credit of $\frac{2}{100}$ of standard weight to M. & R. was incorrect, and gave him an advantage. In any new regulation it was, of course, advisable to secure accuracy, both in the charge to the depositor & the credit to the M. & Refiner.

Very respectfully

R. M. McAlpin Esq
Supt. N. Orleans.

Geo. N. Eckert
Director

To/ Sup. at N. Orleans

29 Dec 1852

# A Memorandum of the Coining Dies received from R. M. McAlpin Esqr. Supt. for the Year 1852.

| Dates of the Receipt of Dies | Denomination of Dies | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Double Eagle | | Eagle | | Half Eagle | | Quarter Eagle | | Gold Dollar | | Silver Dollar | | Half Dollar | | Quarter Dollar | | Dime | | Half Dime | | Three Cen | |
| | H. | T. | H. | T | H. | T. | H. | T. | H. | T. | H. | T. | H. | T. | H. | T. | H. | T. | H. | T. | H. | T |
| Decr. 13th | 4 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 4 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| „ 18th | – | – | 2 | – | 2 | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 | – | 2 | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | – |
| „ 20th | 2 | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 | – | – | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| „ 22d | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 2 | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | – |
| „ 26 | – | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | 2 | – | 2 | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | – | 4 | – | – | – |
| „ 29 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 2 | – | – | – | 2 | – | – | – | – | – |
| „ 31st | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 2 | – | 6 | 4 |
| 1852<br>Jany. – 2nd | – | 4 | – | – | – | – | 4 | – | 2 | 6 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | 2 |
| | 6 | 4 | 6 | - | 2 | – | 6 | – | 6 | 6 | 2 | – | 12 | - | 4 | - | 6 | - | 6 | – | 6 | 6 |

## Recapitulation

| | Heads | Tails |
|---|---|---|
| Double Eagle | 6 | 4 |
| Eagle | 6 | – |
| Half Eagle | 2 | – |
| Quarter Eagle | 6 | – |
| Gold Dollar | 6 | 6 |
| Silver Dollar | 2 | – |
| Half Dollar | 12 | – |
| Quarter Dollar | 4 | – |
| Dime | 6 | – |
| Half Dime | 6 | – |
| Three Cent | 6 | 6 |
| Total – | 62 | 16 |

United States Branch Mint New Orleans
Coiner's Office Jany. 12th 1852.

A. Merall
Coiner

NEW ORLEANS, 1853

Branch Mint of the U.S.
At New Orleans.
Assayers Office 8 Jany 1853

Sir

Enclosed herewith I have the honor to transmit you Gold assays, slips from twenty two melts #185-206 also assay p^s. from four Silver melts. being the last numbers that I have reported to the Treasurer for the Year 1852

The titles I have marked upon the wrappers

Very Respectfully
(Signed)
H Millspaugh.
Assayer.

To Col R. M. McAlpin.
Superintendent

#185 - 900
6 - 900
7 - 900
8 - 899.5
9 - 900.5
190 - 900
1 - 900.5
2 - 900
3 - 900
4 - 900
5 - 900.5
6 - 900.
7 - 900
8 - 900
9 - 899.5
200 - 900.
1 - 900.5
2 - 900.
3 - 900
4 - 900
5 - 900
6 - 900.

weight of above
22 slips gold - 0.661 oz

Silver slips
#187 - 192 } - 1.305 oz
197 - 200 }

# Statement of Gold and Silver Coins reserved for assaying at the Branch Mint of the United States at New Orleans during the month of December 1852

| Date | | Deliveries | Deliveries | Pieces | Value | | Total Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | Dollars | Cts | Dollars | Cts |
| 1852 | | **Gold** | | | | | | |
| Decem | 20 | Double eagles | 7000 | 7 | 140 | 00 | | |
| | 29 | Do. | 7500 | 8 | 160 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 300 | 00 |
| | | **Silver** | | | | | | |
| Decr. | 30 | Half dollars | 16000 | 3 | 1 | 50 | | |
| | | | | | | | 1 | 50 |
| | | | | | Dollars | | 301 | 50 |

Branch Mint of the U. S. New Orleans
Treasurer's Office December 31st 1852

A. Millspaugh
Assayer

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

Gold & Silver Coins
reserved for assaying
at Branch Mint U.S.
New Orleans during
month of
December 1852

Branch Mint United States
New Orleans January 11th 1853.

Sir

I have the honor of enclosing statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending 7th Inst.

I also enclose statement of the Deposits and Coinage during the Month of Decr also of Coins reserved for assay during the same period— The Coins will be forwarded by tomorrows Mail—

Since my last we have recd the following described Coining Dies completing the Number asked for—

Bx # 6. 2 Two Eagle Head Dies
" " 16. 2 Two Hlf Doll do "
" " 17. 2 Two do do "
" " 2. 2 Two Dbl Eagle do "
" " 10. 2 Two Qr do do "
" " 19. 2 Two Qr Doll do "
" " 22. 2 Two Dime do "
Bx # 11. 2 Two Qr Eagle Head Dies
" " 23. 2 Two Hlf Dime do "
" " 24. 2 Two do do "
" " 28. 2 Two Three Cent dated "
" " 25. 2 Two Hlf Dime Head "
" " 27. 2 Two Three Cent dated "
" " 26. 2 Two ditto do "

all for the Year 1853 Eighteen Hundred and Fifty Three—

I have also in the presence of the officers defaced Dies as per annexed list—

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Double Eagle | Six. | 6. | Heads | |
| Eagle | Six. | 6. | do | 1. One Tail |
| Hlf do | Two. | 2. | do | |
| Qr do | Six. | 6. | do | 2. Two do |
| Gold Dollar | Four. | 4. | do | 6. Six Dated |
| Silver Dollar | Two. | 2. | do | |
| Hlf Dollar | Twelve. | 12. | do | |
| Qr do | Four. | 4, | do | |
| Dime | Six. | 6. | do | |
| Hlf do | Six. | 6. | do | 1. One Tail |
| Three Cents | Six. | 6. | Dated — | |

I enclose Assay Slips as per Assayers report a Copy of which I enclose with them —

The Yearly report will be forwarded in a few days —

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

Most respy.
Your mo obt Servt
A. M. McAlpin
Supdt

From

Supt. at N. Orleans

11 Jan 1853

Recd

20 Jan. 1853.

# A Memorandum of all the Coining Dies of the United States Branch Mint at New Orleans, Showing the number & denomination of Dies of the Year 1852, those Cancelled and those reserved for use in the Year 1853, also the number of New Dies received from the Superintendent for use in the Year 1853.

| Denomination | The whole number of Dies of the Year 1852. | | The number of Dies Cancelled of the Year 1852. | | The number of Dies of the Year 1852 reserved for use in the Year 1853 | | The number of new dies recieved for use in the Year 1853. | | The whole number of dies reserved & received for use in the Year 1853 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails | Heads | Tails |
| Double Eagle | 6 | 9 | 6 | – | – | 9 | 6 | – | 6 | 9 |
| Eagle | 6 | 10 | 6 | 1 | – | 9 | 6 | – | 6 | 9 |
| Half Eagle | 2 | 18 | 2 | – | – | 18 | 4 | – | 4 | 18 |
| Quarter Eagle | 6 | 16 | 6 | 2 | – | 14 | 6 | | 6 | 14 |
| Gold Dollar | 9 | 6 | 4 | 6 dated | 5 | – | – | 6 dated | 5 | 6 dated |
| Silver Dollar | 2 | 11 | 2 | – | – | 11 | – | – | – | 11 |
| Half Dollar | 12 | 24 | 12 | – | – | 24 | 6 | – | 6 | 24 |
| Quarter Dollar | 4 | 12 | 4 | – | – | 12 | 4 | – | 4 | 12 |
| Dime | 6 | 14 | 6 | – | – | 14 | 6 | – | 6 | 14 |
| Half Dime | 6 | 9 | 6 | 1 | – | 8 | 6 | – | 6 | 8 |
| Three Cent | 6 | 12 | dated 6 | | – | 12 | dated 6 | – | dated 6 | 12 |
| | 65 | 141 | 60 | 10 | 5 | 131 | 50 | 6 | 55 | 137 |

## Recapitulation

| | Heads | Tails |
|---|---|---|
| The whole number of Dies of the Year 1852 | 65 | 141 |
| " " " " " " Cancell Jany 6th 1853. | 60 | 10 |
| " " " " " " Reserved for use in Year 1853. | 5 | 131 |
| The whole number of New Dies received for use in the Year 1853. | 50 | 6 |
| " " " " Dies reserved & received for use in Year 1853. | 55 | 137 |

Signed in Duplicate
Coiner's Office
Jany. 12th 1853
A. Duvall
Coiner

Statement of Dies, N. O. B. M.
for use in 1853.
Jan 24/53

Branch Mint United States
New Orleans January 15th 185[illegible]

Sir

I send herewith the Annual Statement of the Treasurer, of the Deposits and Coinage, and of Coins reserved for assaying at this Branch Mint during the Year "1852" Eighteen Hundred & fifty two.

I also enclose the Weekly report of the Condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending yesterday —

The Coiner has just handed me a Statement of all the Coining Dies in his possession which I presume will agree with yours &c —

Most respectfully
Your obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt. at New Orleans
15 Jan. 1853.

Recd
24 Jan. 1853.

[illegible] 1852; [illegible]
1853; [illegible] x

Branch Mint of the U.S.
New Orleans July 9th 1853

Sir

Enclosed please find Statements of the Deposits and Coinage at this Branch Mint for the Month of January and of Coins reserved for assaying during the same period.

The Coins will be forwarded by Tomorrows Mail —

Most respy
Your obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt. at N. Orleans
9 Feb 1853

Recd
18 Feb 53

February 1853

1.16.3
4652
5815
1,215~~735~~

Branch Mint. U. S.
New Orleans Feby 17th 1853

Sir

I enclose herewith Copy of a Letter from the Melter & Refiner relative to the assay of the Sweeps Bottoms Gold & Silver of 1851 Eighteen Hundred and fifty one. If this and Mr Millspaugh's assays are correct it will make a material difference in our accounts. I would respectfully ask that you comply with his request to reassay, and inform me of the result.

I also have the pleasure of enclosing the Annual Statement of the Bullion Accounts of the Coiner and Melter & Refiner showing the Wastage claimed by them on the Bullion worked up during the year Eighteen Hundred and Fifty two. 1852.

Most respy
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director.
Philadelphia

From

Supt B. Mint
N. Orleans

Recd
25 Feb 1853

17 Feb 1853

( Copy )

U. States Branch Mint New Orleans
Melter's & Refiner's Office Feby 9th 1853

Sir

The discrepancy between the title of the Sweep of 1851 assayed by the late Dr. Wm. P. Hort, and that of the Sweep of 1852, assayed by the present Assayer, led me to investigate the Matter, as I could not see any reason, why the Sweeps washed by the Same Machine and in the Same Manner, should differ so Materially. The gold Sweep of the year 1851, was assayed by Dr. Hort in the usual Manner, that is by fluxing 5 oz of the Sweep with litharge and other fluxes, to obtain a button of lead containing the precious Metals, and then to Cupel that button, as usual, and separate it. The title thus found was reported at gold 355 M, Silver 645, and at these titles the 11.011 # of Gold Sweep of 1851 gave

oz. dec
11.011 × 355 × 1042 = 407.307 stand } Gold and
11,011 × 645 × 1042 = 740.03 } Silver

Having, fortunately, retained a button of the Sweep of 1851, I caused the Same to be reassayed and it was reported by Mr. Millspaugh, as follows.

Gold 178 M Silver 322, or about one half of the title given by Dr. Hort, at these titles the Sweep of 1851 gives

oz. dec
11.011 × 178 × 1042 = 204.227 Gold
11,011 × 322 × 1042 = 369.44 Silver

making a difference with gold Value of 203.080, and in the Silver Value of 370.59 Standard ounces.

Samples of Sweeps are sent to Philadelphia every year, and it would be satisfactory to me to know that the assays of the Phil.a Mint correspond with ours, and I would therefore suggest, that whilst reporting to the Director the Contents of this communication you might request him to have our Sweep samples aſsayed

As it will be neceſsary for you, to communicate the discrepancy between the assays to our consignee, J. W. Farnum, I would request you to order through him the Stone jars of the following dimensions

One Dozen jars 14 inch diameter + 5 inches high
One Dozen jars 16 inch diameter + 10 inches high

These jars I use in the refining for decanting the Solutions of Silver and for other purposes, and in spite of my exertions I have not been able to obtain jars of these dimensions, poſseſsing the indispensable quality of resisting acids perfectly. The jars I now use, came originally from England, and I am desirous that Mr. Farnum should select some there and send them as speedily as poſsible

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
(Signed) M. F. Bonzano
Melter & Refiner

To R. M. McAlpin, Esqre.
Supt. U. S. B. M., N. O.

# Melter & Refiner's Account of Bullion

|  |  |  |  | Ounces | Dec. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1852.<br>December | 31. | Gold. Dr. |  | 499.035. | 183. |
|  |  | Cr. |  | 497.657. | 280. |
|  |  | Balance |  | 1.377. | 903. |
|  |  | Bullion weighed | Oz. 411. 030. |  |  |
|  |  | " in Sweeps | " 578. 961. |  |  |
|  |  | Sweeps Sold in Paris | " 234. 130. |  |  |
|  |  | Wastage | " 153. 782. | 1.377. | 903. |
| 1852.<br>December | 31. | Silver Dr. |  | 404.966 | 82 |
|  |  | Cr. |  | 358.221 | 15. |
|  |  | Balance |  | 46.745 | 67. |
|  |  | Bullion weighed | Oz. 30. 813. 31. |  |  |
|  |  | Silver Used for alloy | " 5. 167. 76. |  |  |
|  |  | " in Sweeps | " 2. 173. 47. |  |  |
|  |  | Sweeps Sold in Paris | " 8. 459. 56. |  |  |
|  |  | Wastage | " 131. 57. | 46.745 | 67. |

Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office, December 31st 1852.

# Coiner's Account of Bullion

| | | | Ounces | Dec |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1852.<br>December | 31. | Gold Dr. | 498.847 | 079 |
| | | Cr. | 497.587 | 928. |
| | | Balance | 1.259 | 151. |
| | | Bullion weighed Oz. 952.859. | | |
| | | " in Sweep " 186.039. | | |
| | | Wastage " 120.253. | 1.259 | 151. |
| 1852.<br>December | 31. | Silver Dr. | 371.303. | 13. |
| | | Cr. | 361.279. | 67. |
| | | Balance | 10.023. | 46. |
| | | Bullion weighed Oz. 9.144. 11. | | |
| | | " in Sweep " 795. 29. | | |
| | | Wastage " 84. 06. | 10.023. | 46. |

Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office, December 31st 1852.

Belle assise

R. M. McAlpin Esq
Superintendent Branch Mint
New-Orleans

Hâvre 25 Feb. 1853
via Liverpool

Sir,

In confirmation of our letter to you of the 22 Inst.*, per "Belle-Assise", we have, now, the pleasure of enclosing the Certificate of our Assayer in Paris of the result obtained by him in two different assays of each of the two samples of Sweep specified in that letter.

We have the honor to be,
Sir
Your most obt. st.

A Dinguez

* of which the annexed is a duplicate.

Dupl$^{te}$

R. M. M$^{c}$Alpin Esq$^{re}$
Superintendent Branch Mint
New-Orleans

Havre 22 Feby 1853

Sir,

We beg to inform you that, in consequence of instructions sent to us from Paris by D$^{r}$ Jos. W. Farnum, we have drawn a sample from each of 2 lots of Sweep forming part of a parcel of 61 Barrels arrived last month in the Ship Heidelberg from New-Orleans & which was placed under our charge by that Gentleman, & that we have forwarded to our own Assayer at Paris about 1/5$^{th}$ of each of the two samples drawn, for an examination of their value & a report to us upon the same, & that we have placed the remaining 4/5$^{th}$ of each sample in two separate tin boxes which we are forwarding to you by the american Ship "Globe" to sail very shortly for New-Orleans.

We enclose herein the bill of lading for the shipment, & will acquaint you with the report of our Assayer as soon as we learn it — the whole of the above steps having been taken by M$^{r}$ Farnum's directions, but without any other intervention on his part & indeed in his absence —

We have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Ob$^{t}$ S$^{t}$

P.S. Being unable to send the samples above mentioned by the "Globe" as we had intended, we put them on board of the "Belle Assise" instead.

PARIS 15 3 MARS (60)

10

p first Mail Steamer from Liverpool

17

PD

LE HAVRE

R. M. McAlpin Esq

Superintendent Branch Mint

N. YORK BR. PKT. 5 MAR 21

New Orleans

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans March 29th 1853

Sir

I have the honor of enclosing Copies of sundry documents received from Mr Harmon and Hottinguer & Co also two original Letters from H & Co relative to the Sweeps shipped them to be sold by Mr H—

The Assays in France prove clearly that there was an error in our assays.

I wrote you under date 17th February requesting you to assay the samples sent you—

It is a long time since I have had any of your favors, I learn that Mr Bienvenu has been appointed in my place, and would be glad to have this matter properly entered on our Books before I leave—

I would be most thankfull for your attention at your earliest convenience—

Most respy
Your my obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G N Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

Supt. at N. Orleans
March 29/53

Rec'd
6 Apr 1853.

April 1853

(Copy)

Paris 17th February 1853.

R. M. McAlpin, Esq
Supt N. Orleans Branch Mint

Dear Sir

Hoping that My two letters announcing the receipt of Bill of Lading & Invoices of Sweep, pr "Heidelberg", the Landing ware housing and Insuring of the Same have been duly received, I have Now, in addition to State, that, I proceeded to Havre, and, in Company with M. Gautier, Ainé & Messrs Hottinguer & Co of Havre, drew Samples of the Three lots of Sweep, having previously Mixed together Most thoroughly the seven Bbls, belonging to the Coiner; thus obviating the Necessity of drawing More than one Sample instead of Seven, from this particular Lot,

I sent a sample from each of the three Lots to Mons Piettat and Mons. Genneau the latter, one of the best Commercial Assayers of Paris

Their replies are enclosed, with that of Mr Gautier Ainé, who drew his own Samples. The offer for the Twenty four Bbls of Silver Sweep exceeds the Mint Valuation of the Same, and has accordingly been accepted.

The high price obtained for the Silver Sweep arises from the presence of a Minute portion of Gold Not reported by the Mint. The result of the Mint Assay for Silver in this Lot Coincides Very Nearly with the Mean result of Numerous Assays of the Same, in Paris.

As it respects the other two Lots, I regret to State, that all three of the above Named gentlemen concur in Stating, by the enclosed results of their assays, and Consequent offers, that the Mint Valuation of these two Lots is too high by Nearly Fifty per Cent

I have accordingly refused to sell these two Lots, until I receive a reply from you, which, I anxiously await.

To prevent the possibility of the Supposition of any Mistake, I have requested Messrs. Hottinguer & Co of Havre, without any intervention on My part, to draw fresh Samples from these two Lots, to send one portion of the same to You for the purpose of being reassayed and another portion to some Commercial Assayer in Paris as they may designate and to Communicate the result to You. I would observe that from the arrival of the Ship at Havre, to the final delivery of the Sweep, every operation, at Havre, is executed with the aid of Messrs. Hottinguer & Co

Thus, in all Cases, where, either the Interests of the Mint or the purchases of the Sweep is Concerned, I have the testimony of a perfectly disinterested witness to appeal to.

This intervention, on their part, Costs the Mint Nothing, their Charge being defrayed from My own Commission.

I would respectfully suggest, if it is Not possible, that the Mistake May have originated, in reading off the Weights, used for the Assay of Gold, at their Nominal instead of their real denomination, which you are aware, is less than the former by Fifty pr %

Hoping that the final result will be Satisfactory I have the honour to be &c

Your Obt. Servant

(Signed) Jos. W. Farnum

P. S. My address remains the same as heretofore

Reckoning the Gold dollar as equal to Five francs eighteen Centimes, the Mint Valuation of the Silver Sweep is One Hundred and Sixty three francs pr 100 Kilogrammes, whereas I have sold the same for 170 frs pr 100 K

P. S The following are Messrs. Gautier's final offers for the Sweep
For Silver do 170 fcs pr 100 Kilogrammes
For 30 Boly Gold do 376 francs pr % Kilos
" Coiner's do 675 francs pr % Killos

The following are the offers of M. Pictat

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Silver | Sweep | 170 | francs | pr % | Kilogrammes |
| Gold | do | 366 | do | " | " |
| Coiners | " | 669 | do | " | " |

The following are the results of M. Genneau's

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Assays. | Silver | Sweep | 11 Gold Grammes | & | Silver 755 | pr % | Kilos |
| | Gold | do | 100 | " | 200 | | " |
| | Coiners | do | 150 | " | 1280 | | " |

## Dr Hennin & Fils aîné

Essayeur du Commerce

47 Rue Quincampoix **Paris** Passage de Venise 3.

## Certificat de l'Essai et du Poids

De Deux Echantillons
De Cendres

à Mr Hottinguer

| Numeros | | Titres | | Poids | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Etrangers | d'Enregistrement | Milligrammes | Kilog | Grammes | Decim |
| 6. barils<br>1. Boucaut id | 2646<br>61. | Arg 620. gr ______ Or 69 gr pr<br>" 619. gr ______ " 67 gr " | 50.<br>idem | | |
| 30. barils<br>id | 2647.<br>62. | Arg 87. gr __ Or 56 gr Iridium 17 gr pr<br>" 82. gr __ " 58. gr id 18 gr " | 50.<br>idem | | |

Paris le 24 février 1853.

Sig. Dr Hennin.

Fonderie, de Toutes Especes de Matieres d'Or & d'Argent

Rue St. Martin 408. & 410. & Rue St. Merry 46.

A. Genneau, Essayeur du Commerce

Mr. Farnum

| Numeros | | Titres | | Poids | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | D'Enregistremt. | Or | Argent | Kilog | Gram | Decit. |
| | | Grammes | | | | |
| Couleur | 2843. | 140. | 1280. | | | |
| | | Pr 100.k | Valeur | 744.F | 80. | |

Sig. Genneau.

Paris le 4. Fevrier 1853.

# Fonderie de toutes especes de matieres d'Or & d'Argent

Rue St Martin 108 & 110 & Rue St. Merry 46.

## A. Genneau, Essayeur du Commerce

Mr Farnum Cendres

| Numeros | | Titres | | Poids | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N° Enregistrement. | Or. | Argent | Kilog. | Gram. | Decid. |
| | | Grammes | | | | |
| 5 | 2844. | 11. | 755 | | | |
| | | | par 100 K. Valeur | | 195f | 95. |

Sig. Genneau

Paris le 4. fevrier 1855.

Fonderie, de Toutes Espèces de Matières d'Or & d'Argent
Rue St. Martin 108 & 110 & Rue St. Merry 46.
A. Genneau, Essayeur du Commerce

Mr. Farnum.

| Numeros | | Titres | Titres | Poids | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | N° d'Enregistrement | Or | Argent | Kilog | Gram | Decimt |
| | | Grammes | | | | |
| 6 | 2845. | 100. | 200. | | | |
| | | | par 100. K, Valeur | | 382. | f<br>00. |

Sig Genneau

Paris le 4. Février 1853.

Paris le 10. Fevrier 1853.

Monsieur Jos. W. Farnum
a Paris.

J'ai eu l'avantage de recevoir votre lettre du 7. Court. par laquelle V/. avez bien voulu me faire connaitre votre nouvelle adresse.

Par la presente, je viens, Monsieur, v/ faire connaitre les prix auxquels je peux me charger de v/ 61. barils cendres, pris au Havre.

J'offre de vous payer, Savoir:

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| les 24. | B/ | Cendres d'argent | f. 165. | par 100. Kilogrammes |
| les 30. | B/ | " d'or. | " 376. | id |
| les 7. | B/ | " Melangées | " 675. | id. |

Il me Sera agreable de Savoir bientot Si m/ offres Sont agrées ou refusées.

Les cendres d'or, Contenant beaucoup d'Iridium, je me Suis trouvé empêché de v/ ecrire plutot, par Suite de la difficulté que presentent les essais l'orsque l'iridium Se trouve allié avec l'or.

Je vous presente, Monsieur, mes bien affectueuses Salutations

Sig pp. Gautier ainé
Zarrera.

Paris le 22 Février 1855.

Mr J. W. Farnum, à Paris.

Je viens Monsieur, v/remettre le compte des 24. barils Cendres d'argent que v/m'avez vendus au prix de f. 170. p% Kl. suivant détail de poids ci après mentionné, ces Cendres pesent Net, 5.058.k 4. et donnent un Produit de f. 8599. 28.

Je vous ai payé, à valoir une somme de " 8840. "

Vous avez donc à me tenir Compte de " 240. 72. que je vous ai payés de trop.

Il me semble que ces Cendres donnent un poids bien inférieur à celui qui se trouve indiqué dans le Compte que vous avez bien voulu me Communiquer.

Je tiens les barils vides à votre disposition pour en vérifier le poids.

Veuillez, Monsieur, agréer mes bien affectueuses Salutatns

Sig. p.pr. Gautier aîné

Barrera.

Produit des 24. barils

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Poids Constaté au Havre | 5.655.k 9. | |
| Tare | 597. 5. | |
| Poids Net | 5058.k 4. | Cendres à f 170. %K |
| | | f. 8599. 28. |

Paris 11. Février 1853.

Monsieur Farnum à Paris

J'ai l'honneur de vous ecrire pour vous faire Connaitre les offres que je puis vous faire des trois lots cendres aurifères et argentifères en 61. Barils que vous avez au Havre et dont vous avez eu l'obligeance de me remettre vous même les echantillons en ½ K. chaque pour en faire les essais

Savoir

N.° 1. Soit 5. ________________ f. 170., les % K.
" 2. " 6. ________________ " 366. id.
" 3. " 7. Cendre dite brune ________ " 669. id.

Je vous observe que ces Cendres contiennent de L'iridium et notamment le N.° 6, en quantité.

Si je n'ai pas l'avantage de vous rencontrer chez vous j'y deposerai cette lettre, et je vous serai fort obligé de m'indiquer l'heure a laquelle je pourrais vous voir.

Agréez, Monsieur
Mes Salutations distinguées

Sig. de Piellat

99. St. Louis.–

Assay Office, U.S. Mint
March 5. 1853

The following is the result of the re-assay of gold and silver sweeps of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, for 1851, from samples which were remaining on hand.

We at first took five ounces as usual, but the pots giving way, we were obliged to operate the second time upon three ounces of the gold sweep, and 2½ ounces of the silver.

Gold Sweep.

3 ozs. contained 108½$^{ms}$ gold, equal to 181$^{ms}$ in 5 ozs.
" " 166½$^{ms}$ silver, " 277½ "

The gold result is a good confirmation of Mr Millspaugh's report.

There was no request to have the silver sweep tried at this time, but we did so to ascertain whether it might contain the additional gold called for by Dr. Hort's report. The result was,

# Silver Sweep.

2½ ozs. contained $436^{ms}$ silver, equal to $872^{ms}$ in 5 ozs

" " $5^{ms}$ gold, " $10^{ms}$ "

The values are deduced as follows:

**Gold Sweep:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Val. of gold per lb. av. of sweep | $0.35.1 |
| " silver " " | .03.4 |
| | 0.38.5 |

**Silver Sweep:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Val. of gold per lb. av. of sweep | $0.01.9 |
| " silver " " | .10.6 |
| | 0.12.5 |

Wm E Dubois
Asst. Assayer

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia 24 Mar 1853

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your report & assay coins for February, your weekly statements, &c.

Congress having by law changed the weights of the silver coins less than a dollar, you will, on and after the 1st of April discontinue the receipt of silver bullion for coinage into other than dollar pieces. Full instructions relative to the new coinage, the purchasing of bullion for its manufacture, and the method of its distribution will be forwarded I hope in a few days. The dies necessary for the pieces are in course of preparation and will be forwarded to you as soon as ready.

On the first of April you will also deduct from the value (gross) of Gold deposits, and from silver deposits for coinage into *dollars*, a charge of half-per cent, as a compensation for coinage, authorised by the 6th section of the Act of Feb. 21, 1853, amendatory of the laws as to coins.

We are perfecting arrangements for the issue of bars, properly stamped, to be issued to such depositors as may prefer their bullion in that shape to taking it in coin charged with the heavy percentage for coinage. The moulds will be forwarded to you when ready, with instructions pertinent to the manufacture of such bars.

You would have been earlier addressed on these important subjects had I not been daily in expectation, for some time past, of instructions which had been solicited by me. These have not yet been received. Nevertheless the laws as to the coinage charge, and suspending future deposits, by other than the Treas: of the Mint, of silver for coinage into pieces less than the dollar, being imperative, and fixed for the 1st day of April by the 7th section of the deficiency bill, it is necessary that the Mints should conform thereto.

I may add that the deductions for coinage will not be available for Contingent Expenses, but are required to be paid, from time to time, into the Treasury of the U. S. This matter will also ~~form~~ be the subject of future instructions.

Your sweep of 1857 was tested in the Assay Office at your request, but from an accident to the first melting only a small portion was available for assay. The results were: Gold Sweep 3 ozs Mill. metal 275 viz gold 108½ silv 166½ value per lb avoirdupois of sweep Gold $0.351 Silver $0.034 Total $0.385 Silver Sweep 2½ ozs mill. metal 441 viz gold 5 silver 436. ~~total~~ Value of gold per lb avoird. = $0.019 Silver $0.106 Total $0.125

very Respectfully
your obdt Servt

Geo. N. Eckert
Director

R. M. McAlpin Esq
Supt. New Orleans.

P.S. - I find the annual trial of your coins has not been reported to you. The results were Gold 899.1 Silver 900.3 The weights satisfactory. There appears to be a tendency of your gold to too low a fineness, and of your silver to the reverse. [illegible] reports [illegible] tardy [illegible] of the assay coins, also assay slips [illegible].

To

R. M. McAlpin, Esq

New Orleans

24 Mar 1853

# Statement of Gold and Silver Coins reserved for Assaying at the Branch Mint of the United States New=Orleans during the Month of January 1853.

| Date | | Deliveries | deliveries | Pieces | Value | | Total Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1853 | | Gold | | | Dollars | Cts | Dollars | Cts |
| Jany | 14 | Double Eagles | 2000 | 2 | 40 | 00 | | |
| | 19 | Double Eagles | 3500 | 4 | 80 | 00 | | |
| | 22 | Double Eagles | 4750 | 4 | 80 | 00 | | |
| | 27 | Double Eagles | 3250 | 4 | 80 | 00 | | |
| | 31 | Gold Dollars | 100.000 | 100 | 100 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 380 | 00 |
| 1853 | | Silver | | | | | | |
| Jany | " | No Delivery | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 380 | 00 |

Branch Mint of the United States
New Orleans January 31st 1853.

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

H. Millspaugh
Assayer

U. S. Branch Mint,
New Orleans.
7th March 1853

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit statements of the deposites and Coinage at this Branch Mint, for the month of February 1853. And of Coins reserved for assaying from deliveries during same period.
The assay Coins will be forwarded by to morrow's mail.

Your very Obdt. Servant
R. M. McAlpin
Superintendent

Dr Geo N Eckert
Director of the Mint
Philada.

From
Supt at N. Orleans
7 Mar. 1853

Recd
17 Mar 1853

Statement of Gold and Silver Coins, reserved for assaying, at the Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans. During the month of February 1853.

| Date, 1853. | Deliveries | Pieces | Pieces | Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Feb. 5 | Double Eagles | 3500. | 3. | 60.00 |
| 11 | Do. | 2000. | 2. | 40.00 |
| 19 | Do. | 4000. | 4. | 80.00 |
| 28 | Do. | 5750. | 6. | 120.00 |

(Silver no delivery)

— Total — $ 300.00

Branch Mint of the U. S. New Orleans
Treasurer's office, March 1st 1853.

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer

H. Millspaugh
Assayer

Branch Mint New Orleans

Statement of assay
Coins for
February 1853

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans March 9th/1853

Sir

I enclose Summary of Twenty Six assay slips from Twenty Eight Melts. Two being condemned.

Dr M F Bonzano has applied for a short leave of absence to enable him to visit you and the Secty of the Treasury, to get permission to visit Europe on very important Family business—

Mr Blanck his assistant being very capable, I see no reason why I should refuse his request, and have therefore granted it.

Dr B. will leave on the "Crescent City" 11th Inst—

Our receipts of Gold for last Steamer were about ten thousand Ounces—

Very respecty
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt. B. Mint
N. Orleans
7 Mar 1853

Rec'd
17 Mar/53

March 1853

Dr. 54 Bbls, Bullion Sweep in accᵗ. Current to March with J. W. Farnum

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1853 | | | | 1853 | | | | | |
| March | 15 | To Credit on Messrs. Baring Brother's & Co. London £ | 1022.7.1 | Feby | 14 | By proceeds Sales, 8599 28/100 fs @ 25 75/1000 pr £ equal to £ | 333 | 19 | 1 |
| | | | | March | 1 | By Proceeds Sales. fs 17294.08 @ 25 125/1000 pr £ equal to | 688 | 8 | 0 |
| | | £ | 1022.7.1 | | | £ | 1022 | 7 | 1 |

E. E. Paris, 15 March, 1853

Signed J. W. Farnum

Paris 15th March 1853.

R. M. McAlpin Esq
Supt. N. O. Branch Mint

Dear Sir

Messrs. Hottinguer & Co. at My instance, having drawn fresh samples, and had them assayed, without any intervention on My part, and having obtained results essentially agreeing with those previously obtained by Me, and having satisfied Myself that it was impossible to obtain higher offers, upon full consideration, I have deemed it expedient to accept the same without awaiting further advice from You

The final account, with the accompanying Vouchers, are accordingly enclosed

Hoping that every proceeding will Meet with your approval, and with Many thanks for your kindness

I have the honour to be
Your Obt. Servant
Signed Jos. N. Farnum

# Account of Charges of 54 Barrels of Sweep Rec$^{d}$ from New Orleans, by the A$^{n}$ Ship "Heidelberg" & which according to the order of J. W. Farnum Esq we have delivered to M$^{r}$ Gautier Ané. Viz

Gold Sweep 1/30 }
Silver do 1/24 }

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 54 Barrels weigh$^{g}$ gross 11.446 | | | |
| Freight at $ 1 2/ a barrel " | $ 67.50 | | |
| Primage 5% " | " 3.38 | | |
| | $ 70.88 | | |
| at ƒ 5 2/ | ƒ 372.15 | | |
| Prorata of tent hire | 10.80 | | |
| ƒ | | 382 | 95 |
| Duty of entry on 11.446$^{k}$ ƒ 0.05 pr 100$^{k}$ additional 10$^{c}$ + Stamp | | 6 | 60 |
| Fire Insurance on ƒ. 50,000 at 1 ‰ for 3 months policy & Stamps | | 53 | 90 |
| Custom's Permit & Clearance | | 1 | 55 |
| Workmen, housing & unhousing & Weighing | | 35 | 10 |
| Coopers, receiving, Conditionning & extra Sampling | | 29 | 70 |
| Hire of the Bond's Scales | | 2 | 00 |
| Boxes & Bottles for the Samples | | 1 | 30 |
| Charges of Assay in Paris | | 5 | 00 |
| Cartage to the Bond house | | 11 | 45 |
| Storage 1 Month ½ | | 25 | 90 |
| Portages, franking & Cartage of the samples hence to Paris | | 2 | 15 |
| ƒ | | 557 | 60 |

E. E.

Havre 2$^{d}$ March 1853

Signed pr p$^{on}$ Hottinguer & C$^{o}$

L. Prevost

Account of Charges of 6. Barrels & 1. Cask of Sweep received from N. Orleans by the Amer. Ship "Heidelberg," which according to the order of J. W. Farnum Esqr., we have delivered to Mr. Gautier, ainé ____________________ Viz ____

1/7

6. Barrels }
1. Cask. } Weighing gross 1647.k

| | | | Fr. | c. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Freight on 6. barrels @ $1.¼ pr barrel | $ 7. 50. | | | |
| do " 1. Cask ______________ | " 2. 00. | | | |
| Primage ______________ | " . 50. | | | |
| | $ 10. 00. | Fr. | 52. | 50. |
| Prorata of tent hire | | | 1 | 40. |
| | | | 53. | 90. |
| Duty of entry on 1.647. @ 05 pr %, addition. tents & Stamp | | | 1. | 20. |
| Fire Insurance on $20.000 - 1 0/00 for 3 months, policy & Stamp | | | 21. | 00. |
| Customs Permit & Clearance ______________ | | | | 75. |
| Workmen, housing, unhousing, mixing & weighing ______ | | | 4 | 55. |
| Cooper, receiving, Conditioning & extra Sampling ______ | | | 17 | 50. |
| Hire of the Bond. Scales ______________ | | | 2 | 00 |
| Boxes & bottles for the Samples ______________ | | | 1 | 00 |
| Charges of assay in Paris ______________ | | | 5 | 00 |
| Cartage to the bond House ______________ | | | 1 | 65. |
| Storage 1 Month ½ ______________ | | | 3. | 85. |
| Postage, franking & Cartage of the Samples, to Paris | | | 1 | 75. |
| | | Fr. | 114 | 15. |

E. E. Havre 2 March 1853.

Sig pp. Hottinguer & Co.
L. Prevost.

Account of Sales, Six Barrels & one Cask Bullion Sweeps, Shipped by R. M. McAlpin, Esqr. Superintendent U. S. B. Mint New Orleans, Pr "Heidelberg," Sagory, Master, for Havre, for Sale, for account and risk of whom it May Concern.

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1853. | | By Sales, Mixed Sweeps. | | |
| March | 1 | 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Net Wt<br>1460. K 2. @ f. 675. Pr. % K. | | f. 9.856. 35. |
| | | **Charges** | | |
| March | 2 | To Pd. expenses at Havre, including freight & Primage, as pr. accompg. Vouchers | f. 114. 15. | |
| | | To Pd. Postge. & Letters | " 7. 50. | |
| | | " Commission & Guarantee 5% | " 492. 81. | " 614. 46. |
| | | Net Proceeds | | f. 9.241. 89. |

E. E.

Paris, 15 March 1853.

Sig. Jos. W. Farnum

Dr. Six Barrels & One Cask Mixed Sweep in Acct. Current to March, with Jos. W. Farnum. Cr.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1853. March | 15. | To Credit in Messrs. Baring brothers & Co., London | £ 367 | 16. | 9. | 1853. March | 1 | By Proceeds Sales of Fr. 9.241.89. @ 25 $\frac{125}{1000}$ pr £ equal to | £ 367 | 16. | 9. |

E. E.

Paris, 15. March 1853.

Sig. Jos. W. Farnum

Paris le 12 Mars 1853.

Monsieur Jos. W. Farnum
a Paris.

Monsieur:

J'ai l'avantage de v/ remettre ci apres la Note des tares que j'ai constatées pour les 37 barils cendres que vous m'avez vendus en dernier lieu. Veuillez me faire savoir si nous sommes d'accord sur ces tares, afin que je puisse disposer des barils; en attendant je les tiens a votre disposition

Voici la note du produit des 37 barils:

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 30. barils pist. brute | 5851. K | 4. | | | |
| | Tare | 727. | 2. | | |
| | Net | 5.124. | 2. | Cendres a f. 376 %K. | f. 19.266.99. |
| 7. barils " brute | 1.648. K | 1. | | | |
| | Tare | 187. | 9. | | |
| | Net | 1.460. | 2. | Cendres a f. 675. | " 9.856.35. |
| | | | | Produit f. | 29.123.34 |

Je vous ai payé a valoir sur ces cendres f. 29.715. "
Vous aurez a me rembourser encore cette fois . . . . . . f. 591.66.

Dans l'attente de v/ nouvelles au sujet des cendres qui sont actuellement au havre, je presente, Monsieur, mes salutations bien affectueuses.

Sig. pp. Gautier, aîné
Barrera

The last paragraph of the above letter, refers to a Consignment

of Sweeps from the Philad$^a$ Mint, just arrived, & not yet landed

Sig. Jos. W. Farnum

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia 13 April 1853

Received of Dr. Geo. N. Eckert, Nine thousand four hundred & eighty four $\frac{78}{100}$ dollars, being the aggregate of certain balances which by his accounts, dated this day, are stated to be due by him, as Director of the Mint, to the Treasurers of the Branch Mints of the United States, viz:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| To the Treas. of the | New Orleans Mint | $4221.01 |
| ditto | Charlotte | 4293.89 |
| ditto | Dahlonega | 969.88 |
| | | $9,484.78 |

These moneys are now received by me as succeſsor of Dr. Eckert in the office of Director of the Mint, which he this day resigns into my hands.

T. M. Pettit

Receipt for Branch Mint
moneys, & moneys from
experiments of Mr McCulloh

13 Ap. 1853.

McCulloh's

| | |
|---|---|
| Assay slips & Grains | 3.35 |
| Zinc Gold | .64 |
| Assay slips from Fine Gold | 1.11 |
| | Oz 5.10 |

April 12th/53 Received of Dr.
G N Eckert Oz 5.10 oz.

Jas C Booth
M & R

| | |
|---|---|
| Cash | $165.– |
| " | 9.50 |
| " | 17.50 |
| | 192.00 |

Received in the Ordinary Fund of the Mint, 13 Ap. 1853, One hundred & ninety two dollars, deposited by Dr. G. N. Eckert, Director, as moneys paid by Prof. R. S. McCulloh on account of his experiments in refining, conducted at the Mint, by authority of the Treasy Department.

E. C. Dale,
Treasurer

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans April 5th 1853

Sir

I have the honor of transmitting herewith Statements of the Deposits and Coinage at this Branch Mint during the Month of March 1853 and of Coins reserved for assay in the same period —

The Coins will be forwarded by this days Mail —

Agreeably to your favor of 24th March we have commenced the charge of Seigniorage, as you make no mention of the usual Charges we continue as heretofore — I enclose a sample of our Calculations and Charges for your examination, be pleased to report.

Genl DeBuys requests that you will send him your a/c in full. Assay Coins Empty Carboys &c —

Our deposits you will perceive continue small —

Most respectfully
Your mo obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From

R. M. McAlpin, Sup
N. Orleans
5 ap 1853

Recd
12 ap 1853

# Statement of Gold and Silver Coins reserved for Assaying, at the Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans, during the Month of March 1853.

| Date | | Deliveries | deliveries | Pieces | Value | | Total Value | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1853 | | Gold | | | Dollars | Cts | Dollars | Cts |
| March | 18 | Double Eagles | 5,000 | 5 | 100 | 00 | | |
| | 30 | Double Eagles | 7,250 | 7 | 140 | 00 | | |
| | 31 | Gold dollars | 50,000 | 50 | 50 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 290 | 00 |
| | | Silver | | | | | | |
| March | 12 | Half Dimes | 140,000 | 32 | 1 | 60 | | |
| | | | | | | | 1 | 60 |
| | | | | | | $ | 291 | 60 |

Br Mint of the U. States N. Orleans Treasurer's Office March 31st 1853

Wm. Debuys
Treasurer

H. Millspaugh
Assayer

| Assay No. | Gross Weight. | | Fineness of Gold. | Fineness of Silver. | Standard Wt. of Gold. | | Standard Wt. of Silver. | | Value of Gold. | | Value of Silver. | | DEDUCTIONS FOR | | | | | | | | | | Total value of Gold and Silver. | | Total Deductions. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | Parting. | | Silver alloy. | | Copper alloy. | | ~~Refining~~ Seigniorage 1/2 % | | Toughening. | | | | | |
| | Ounces. | Dec. | M. | M. | Ounces. | Dec. | Ounces. | Dec. | Dollars. | cts. | Dolls. | cts. | Dolls. | cts. | $ | cts. | $ | cts. | $ | cts. | $ | cts. | Dolls. | cts. | Dolls. | cts. |
| — | 73 | 33 | 887 | 80 | 72 | 270 | | | 1344 | 56 | | | | | | | | | 6 | 72 | | | 1344 | 56 | 6 | 72 |
| — | 25 | 88 | 904 | 85 | 25 | 995 | | | 483 | 63 | | | | | | | | | 2 | 42 | | | 483 | 63 | 2 | 42 |
| — | 90 | 11 | 910 | 80 | 91 | 111 | | | 1695 | 09 | | | | | | | | | 8 | 48 | | | 1695 | 09 | 8 | 48 |
| — | 109 | 12 | 884 | 105 | 107 | 180 | 12 | 73 | 1994 | 05 | 14 | 81 | 5 | 46 | 1 | 26 | | 19 | 10 | 04 | | | 2008 | 86 | 16 | 95 |
| — | 281 | 71 | 885 | 105 | 277 | 014 | 32 | 86 | 5153 | 75 | 38 | 24 | 14 | 09 | 3 | 25 | | 50 | 25 | 96 | | | 5191 | 99 | 43 | 80 |
| — | 118 | 54 | 892 | 95 | 117 | 486 | 12 | 51 | 2185 | 79 | 14 | 56 | 5 | 93 | 1 | 38 | | 21 | 11 | 00 | | | 2200 | 35 | 18 | 52 |

| Net Value. | | Date of Deposie. | | Receipt No. | Depositors' Names. | Deposites paid. | | Deposites unpaid. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dolls. | cts. | | | | | Dolls. | cts. | Dollars. | cts. |
| 1819 | 05 | April | 1 | 1 | R. — | | | | |
| 1686 | 61 | " | " | 2 | — | | | | |
| 1991 | 91 | " | " | 3 | — | | | | |
| 5148 | 19 | " | " | 4 | — | | | | |
| 2181 | 83 | " | " | 5 | — | | | | |

( No. 1 ) Au'l

73.33
887

Stand 72.270

Value $ 1344.56

Seigniorage 6.72

Net Value $ 1337.84

( No. 2 y.o

25.88
904

Stand. 25.995

Value
$ 483.63
2.42 Seign

Net $ 481.21

$ 1337.84
481.21

$ 1819 05

---

No. 3

109.12
884

Stand 107.180

Value Gold
$ 1994.05
14.81 Value of Silver

2008.86 Value of Gold + Silver
16 95 Less the Charges

Net Value $ 1991 91

109.12
105

Sd 12.73

Value Silver
$ 14.81

Charges

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Parting | $ | 5.46 |
| Sil. alloy | " | 1.26 |
| Cop. " | " | 19 |
| Seigniorage | " | 10.04 |
| | $ | 16.95 |

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans April 8th 1863

Sir

I enclose herewith copies of sundry documents relating to the Sweeps shipped to France— I approve and trust you will the action of Mr H in selling the same cargo thereby not incurring other expenses—

Mr Harmon has not as yet sent me any authority to draw for the proceeds.

Of the last 100 Carboys Acid, only 75 are good the residue being injured with Salt Water— The Vessel had a very severe passage—

I telegraphed you yesterday to send 100 Carboys— I think it advisable that you should ship in ~~the Risk~~ is too high some 3 or 4 Carboys—

Most resply
Your very obt Servt
A. M. McAlpin
Supdt

Dr G. N. Eckert
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt. at N. Orleans
8 April 1853

Recd
15 apr. 1853

Account of Sales 54 Bbls Bullion Sweeps, Shipped by R. M. Mc Alpin, Esq Superintendent U. S. Br. Mint, New=Orleans Pr Heidelberg Sagory Mr. for Havre, for sale, for account and risk of whom it May concern.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1853 | | By Sales, Silver Sweeps, | | | | |
| Feby | 14 | 1851 Nos. 1/24 Net Wt. 5.058.K4 | | | | |
| | | @ fs 170 pr % K | 8599 | 28 | | |
| March | 1 | By Sales, Gold Sweeps, | | | | |
| | | 1851 Nos. 1/30 Net Wt. | | | | |
| | | 5.124.K2 @ fs 376 pr % K | 19266 | 99 | | |
| | | | | | 27.866 | 27 |
| | | Charges. | | | | |
| March | 2 | To pd Expenses at Havre | | | | |
| | | including freight & primage | | | | |
| | | as pr Accompg Vouchers | 557 | 60 | | |
| x | | To pd Portages &c | 20 | 00 | | |
| | | Commission & Guarantee 5% | 1.393 | 31 | | |
| | | | | | 1.970 | 91 |
| | | Net proceeds F. | | | 25.895 | 36 |

E. E. Paris, 15 March 1853

Signed J. W. Farnum

Bank of Commerce.
New Orleans 13. April 1853

E. C. Dale Esq.
Treasurer
U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

Sir

I notice by your Circular of 31st March that you are prepared to purchase gold and silver Coin therein named payable in gold or in the new coinage at the option of the vendor if in new coinage to be delivered in rotation at the convenience of the mint. please inform if you can receive & pay the coin at the branch Mint here & in case the new coinage should be required time of course will be given for the Mint to send it from Philadelphia, unless the branch should also be supplied with dies to strike it off here.

Will you be pleased to furnish an answer by return Mail

Very respectfully
Your Obt Servt.
Jacob Barker

From
Jacob Barker
New Orleans
13 Apr. 1853

Recd
Ap. 20/53

Mint of the United States,
Philada. 20 apr. 1853

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 13th inst., to the Treasurer of the Mint, I have to state that the Branch Mint at New Orleans will be instructed to commence the coinage of the new silver, as soon as the dies can be prepared for the service, which will now be very soon, and that sales of bullion to that establishment may be made by parties who wish to be furnished with the new coin at New Orleans and places contiguous.

very respectfully yours

T. M. Pettit
Director

Jacob Barker, Esq
Bk. of Commerce
New Orleans.

To/
Jacob Barker
New Orleans

20 apr 1853

Treasury Department
April 15. 1853.

Sir

From some of the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 21st February 1853 amendatory of the existing laws relative to the silver coinage, it might be inferred that it was intended to restrict the coinage of silver to the Mint at Philadelphia. Such, however, is not presumed by the Department to have been the design of Congress, and it is very desirable, if it can be effected without a violation of the law that the provisions of the Act be extended to the Branch Mint at N. Orleans.

There would seem to be no objection to an Exchange of Gold from the Bullion fund at N. Orleans for an equivalent in silver and the Branch having the means may proceed to coin silver under the authority given by the 1st Sect. of the Act of 3rd March 1835, modified under

under the authority given by the 5th Sect. of the same Act extending to the Branches all laws and parts of Laws made for the regulation of the U States, and by the 2nd Sect. of the Act of Jan 18. 1837. S.

The 3rd Sect. of the first mentioned Act requires that the Treasurer of the Mint shall charge himself with the gain arising from the Coinage and credit himself with the prem: & expenses &c on the bullion purchased. The manner in which this account shall be kept as regards the coinage at N Orleans is, with the other matter submitted for your consideration, and if in your opinion there be no objection to authorise the coinage at N. Orleans, you will be pleased to issue the necessary instructions and regulations under the provision of the 4th Sect of the Act of 3 March 1835 to carry the Act into effect.

An offer by Messrs. Cushing & Co. of N York to deposit with the Branch Mint at N. Orleans $400.000 in Mexican dollars at the rates offered by the Mint at Philadelphia has been accepted.

I am very Resp.

James Guthrie

Sec of the Treasury

Thos. M. Pettit Esq

Director of the Mint.

From

Sec. of Treasury

Washington

10 Apr. 1853

Recd

Ap. 18/53

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia 15 apr 1853

Sir

Your favors of the 29th ult°., and 8th inst., with the box of assay coins were received by my predecessor, and I have to acknowledge your communication of the 8th inst.

Messr. Lennig have already shipped the 100 ~~lbs~~ carboys of acid, ordered by telegraph, and I now enclose bills of lading for the same. I shall order a further supply of 300 carboys.

I should mention that, under the construction made by my predecessor, the charge for copper alloy is discontinued, being included in the deduction of ½ p.c. for coinage. The charge for silver alloy is not levied specifically, but is deducted from the standard weight of the silver parted. The basis of calculation is on a supposed refinement of gold to 990; therefore the deduction of standard silver for alloy, in diminution of the calculated standard on the assay, will be 1/99 of the weight of the standard gold, equivalent to 1/100 th of such standard gold in pure silver. I enclose a heading of the form of Calculation Abstract, adopted here, but would recommend that, for the present, you make no alteration in your own form, until ~~you~~ we shall be prepared with some further experience, except to introduce the seignorage column in place of that for copper alloy.

The dies for the service of your Mint, in the preparation of the new silver, are not yet ready, & I postpone definite instructions till that period.

Under the circumstances as they appear in the corresprocured from Paris, relative to the assay forwarded to Dr. Farnum, I am of opinion that he was correct in closing the sales, particularly as the high valuation of the assay at your mint was not confirmed by the Assayer here.

I enclose the account of my predecessor with your Treasurer up to the period of his resigning office into my hands. The balance therein stated to be due by him was transferred to me, and I have given receipt for the same.

very respectfully
your obt servt

T. M. Pettit
Director

R. M. McAlpin, Esq
Superintendent &c
New Orleans.

Branch Mint, N. Orleans
Feb. 25" 1853

Treasurer's weekly
report.

To

Supt. at

N. Orleans

15 Ap '53

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia 18 April 1853

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your communication of the 15th inst., in relation to the coinage of silver at New Orleans under the late law. In reply I have to state that no doubt has been entertained in regard to the legality or the importance of such a coinage at that Mint. The instructions to that end have, however, been delayed until the dies for the new coin, adapted to the service of that Mint, shall have been prepared here. In a few days these will be ready and forwarded to New Orleans, with specific directions as to the course to be pursued in effecting the objects of the new law.

Very respectfully
your obt. servt.

T. M. Pettit
Director

Hon. Jas Guthrie,
Secy of the Treasy
Washington.

S J

Sec. of Treasury

18 Ap. 1883

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans April 22d 1853

Sir

I have the pleasure of enclosing Statements of the condition of this Branch at the close of the week ending this day.

Your favor of 15th Inst is at hand your suggestions relative to the forms shall be complied with—

Be kind enough to inform us at what price we are to buy Silver

Most respy
Your mo obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

T. M. Pettit Esqr
Director of
the Mint
Philadelphia

From

R. M. McAlpin.
Supt. Branch Mint
New Orleans
Apr 25. 1853

Rec'd
Ap 29/53

Mint of the United States.
Philada Sept 2. 1853.

Sir,

I have to request you to furnish me with a statement of the amount of silver bullion purchased for coinage and the amount of silver coinage at the time this letter reaches you.

In view of the demand for silver coin you are requested to use every effort in your power to increase the amount of your silver coinage. You will please give me your views of the subject at your earliest convenience.

I am very Respectfully
James Ross Snowden
Director.

Charles Bienvenu Esqr.
Supt Branch Mint
at, New Orleans.
La.

1004 / 400   40. 24 / 800

21800
21233.66
$ 566.34

[illegible]

79284.20
896½ [illegible]
3964210
4757052 0
7135578 0
6342736 0
900 / 71078287 30
78975.87

To

Charles Bienvenu
Supt. Br. Mint
New Orleans

21st. Sept. 1838.

U. S. Mint
Philada. April 27. 1853.

The value of mexican dollars purchased here is calculated upon weight before melting

T. M. Pettit
Director.

Wm Debuys
Treasr. Branch Mint N. Orleans.

(101 Chesnut st)

# NATIONAL TELEGRAPH

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE

**NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA,**
**PITTSBURGH, CINCINNATI & LOUISVILLE,**
**THE UNITED NEW ORLEANS & OHIO & PEOPLE'S**
**ST LOUIS, INDIANA & LAKE ERIE**

## TELEGRAPH LINES.

GRANITE BUILDING, 101 CHESNUT STREET - 2d STORY - BACK ROOM,

## PHILADELPHIA.

Dated at N Orleans April 22 1853

Received April 25

To T M Pettit

I am instructed by the Department to receive from Corning & Co Four hundred thousand Dollars in Mexican coin for the credit of the Treasury United States on Bullion account at the price offered by the Phila Mint What is the rate

Wm Dubuys

Lith. by Wagner & Buechner, 63 Market St. Pittsburgh Pa

Ansd. — Pay $1.21 an oz gross for Mex, S. A., & Am. dollars —
TMP. D.

From

Treas. at N. Orleans

22 april 1853

Recd

25 Ap '53

# NATIONAL TELEGRAPH

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE

## NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, PITTSBURGH, CINCINNATI & LOUISVILLE, THE UNITED NEW ORLEANS & OHIO & PEOPLE'S ST. LOUIS, INDIANA & LAKE ERIE TELEGRAPH LINES.

GRANITE BUILDING, 101 CHESNUT STREET - 2d STORY - BACK ROOM,
PHILADELPHIA. Aprl 26

Dated at N Orleans 1853

Received

To Directors of Mint

I wish instructions how to credit Mexican dollars purchased of Corning Co is the value to be calculated in weight before or after melting

Wm Dubuys

Lith by Wagner & Buchanan, 61 Market st Pittsburgh Pa

From

Wm Debuys

New Orleans

Apr 26. 1853

Rec'd

Ap 27/53

To

Wm Debuys
Treasurer Branch Mint
New Orleans

27th April 1853.

Bank of Commerce
New Orleans: 2d April 1853

T. M. Pettit, Esqr.
Director of the
U States Mint: Phila:

Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 28th inst. and supposing from the tenor thereof that silver bullion wd. be taken at the Mint to remain until the dies for the new Coinag shd. be received — I took to the Branch Mint at this place a parcel of silver bullion but the assistan Treasurer refused to receive the same for safe keeping for the want of instructions from you —

Believing public interest wd. be promoted by having the specie ready in the N.O. Branch Mint when the dies come, allow me to suggest that you transmit instructions to that effect by an early mail, notifying me thereof

Very respectfully
your Obt. Svt.
Jacob Barker
Manager

From

Jacob Barker
Manager
New Orleans
April 27. 1853

Recd
May 4/53

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia 29 April 1853

Sir,

I send by the present mail three boxes Nos 29, 30, & 31 containing quarter dollar dies for the new coinage.

Instructions are in the course of preparation for your guidance in reference to the purchase and accounting of silver. Meantime you can proceed with all despatch to the coining of pieces from the dies as they are sent to you.

Very respectfully

T. M. Pettit
Director

R. M. McAlpin, Esq.
Supt. &c. N. Orleans

To

R. M. McAlpin
New Orleans

29. April 1853

Mint of the United States,
Philada 30 April 1853.

Sir,

I send by this days mail three boxes numbered 32, 33, & 34 containing pairs of quarter dollar dies.

very respectfully
your obdt servt

T. M. Pettit
Director

R. M. McAlpin, Esq. Supt
New Orleans.

To

R. M. McAlpin Esq
Supt
New Orleans

30th April 1853

Treasury Department
April 20th 1853.

Sir

As a convenient mode of transferring funds from the North to N. Orleans and at the same time to provide the Branch Mint with silver for coinage under the late act, the Department has authorized the delivery at the Branch Mint of a large sum in Mexican dollars.

I would urge upon you the necessity of causing the Branch at N. Orleans to be put into a condition to commence the coinage of silver at as early a period as practicable, and I will thank you to inform the Department when it is probable the necessary dies may be sent to N. Orleans.

No reply has been received

to the communication addressed to you on the 27th inst. Since then the subject has been considered and it is the opinion of the Department that the requirements of the law in relation to the devices &c will be satisfied by the impression of one or more small impressions emblematic of liberty on the obverse of the coins.

I have to request, therefore, that you will give your attention to the matter that the coinage of the annular dollar may be commenced without any delay.

I am very Respy

James Guthrie
Secy of the Treasury

Thos. M. Pettit Esq
Director of the Mint
Philada.

From

Hon James Guthrie
Secy of Treasury
Washington
Apr 30. 1853

Recd
May 2/53

Treasury Department
Comptrollers office
April 30th 1853.

Thomas M Pettit Esqr
Director of the Mint
Phila

Sir

I beg leave to enclose to you, for your approval, the Bond of J M Davis, Superintendent of the branch Mint at Dahlonega, - and the bond of Charles Bienvenu Superintendent of the branch Mint at New Orleans - After your compliance with this request, you will please transmit them to the Secretary of the Treasury, for his approval

Very respectfully,
Elisha Whittlesey
Comptroller,

From,

Elisha Whittlesey
Comptroller
Washington
Apr. 30. 1853

Rec'd
May 2/53

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans April 29th 1853

Sir

I enclose you Copy of your Acct showing an error of One Dollar - I would thank you to correct the same that our Books may agree -

Most Respy
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supt

T. M. Pettit Esqr
Director
Philadelphia

From

R. M. McAlpin Supt
N. Orleans
30 Ap 53

Recd
1 may/53

Mint of the United States
Philada. 2 May 1853

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of yesterday, and in reply to state that dies have already been sent to New Orleans, and the Superintendent has been instructed to direct the energetic coinage of the new Silver. Your communication of the 27th. relative to the difficulty in arranging the devices of an annular coin so as to conform to the restrictions of law was answered on the 29th. and you have ~~had~~ doubtless ere this received my reply. You will observe that my impression is that to combine devices emblematic of liberty with the annular form will not be possible. I shall however, direct the Engraver to give his attention to the subject, and trust that he may be able to overcome the apparent difficulty.

Very respectfully

T. M. Pettit
Director

Hon. Jas. Guthrie
Sec. of Treasury.

To

Hon James Guthrie
Secy.
Washington

2nd May 1853.

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia 3 May 1853

Sir,

I send, by the present mail, three boxes No 25, 26 & 27 containing six obverse dime dies for the new coinage. The reverses of the dime and half dime being unchanged in device, you will continue the use of the reverse dies already in your possession.

The first section of the Coinage Act of Feb. 21, 1853, fixes the weight of the half dollar at 192 grains, the smaller pieces, the 3 cent included (87 Deficiency Bill) being in proportion. The dollar of silver is unchanged. By the Deficienc Bill, the 3c. piece is required, hereafter to be 9/10ths fine, but as to this coin I have to request the manufacture to be suspended until further orders.

The 4th Sect. of the same act of Feb. 21, provides for the exchang of the subdivisions of a dollar at par for gold, in sums not less than $10.

The 3d Sect. provides that to procure bullion for the coinage "the Treasurer of the Mint shall with the approval of the Director, purch such bullion with the bullion fund of the Mint. He shall charg himself with the gain arising from the coinage of such bullion into coins of a nominal value exceeding the intrinsic value thereof, and shall be credited with the difference between such intrinsic value, and the price paid for said bullion, and with the expense of distributing said coins as herein after provided. The balances to his credit, or the profi of said coinage shall, from time to time, on a warran of the Director of the Mint, be transferred to the accou of the Treasury of the United States."

In carrying out these provisions of law, the proper method to be pursued in the purchase of silver should first engage attention. At this Mint, with the approval of the Department, we have fixed on certain prices per ounce gross for such classes of silver as were most likely to be offered, at which price a person may sell his silver on presentation of it at the receiving office. I enclose a circular stating our present tariff.

By the plan adopted we avoid the annoyance and jealousies arising from special contracts. The purchase, by *weight* only, frees us from the losses, or disputes, due to receiving coin in a greater or less degree debased by wear.

We have found that the prices fixed, combined with the priority of payment (which, as you will see from the circular is secured to sellers of silver) have been effectual in securing to us an abundant supply of silver. We have thus far received some $2,400,000.

You are instructed to offer the same prices and terms of payment as are adopted at this Mint, and embodied in the enclosed circular. If it should, however, in your judgment, seem that these prices are above the market rate in New Orleans, I will thank you to inform me ~~at~~ without delay. While it is desirable that the fixed prices of the two Mints should be the same, it would be improper to continue, at either of them, a tariff above the market rate.

I may add, in this connection, that in fixing a uniform price for U.S. coin of all standards (except 3 cents) the fact was not overlooked that an advantage was given to sellers of coin issued anterior to 1837. It seemed politic, nevertheless, to allow this advantage, as we shall thereby more certainly secure the re-coinage of all outstanding issues.

When silver is offered for sale, it should be first examined as to its species, and ~~genuineness~~ genuineness, and if proper to be purchased it should be weighed. A calculation of the value is then made, and the amount paid to the depositor, in gold. At this Mint the weighing clerk has checks which he fills up with the value payable, and which are paid by the paying clerk on presentation. If the depositor does not desire payment in gold, and prefers to wait until he can receive silver in exchange, he preserves his check to that time, and has thus a voucher of the indebtedness of the Mint.

The form of check is as follows:

Mint of the U.S. Silver Bullion

No. -----      Treasurer's Office, Philadelphia ______

Pay to ________ or bearer ____________ dollars ____ cents for

______ /100 ounces of silver at _____ cts per oz.

$ ______      ______________

To the Paying Clerk      for the Treasurer

I am not informed whether one clerk does or does not perform the duties of receipt & payment at your Mint. If ~~do~~ he does, of course some change in forms will be necessary, ~~which~~ ~~or perhaps it would be better to~~ which will readily suggest themselves to you.

The silver purchased is entered on the Weigh Book in the name of the Treasurer, but a memorandum should be entered in the margin, or interlined, indicating the party from whom it was received. The cost may also be entered on the weighbook. At this Mint it is entered in the margin of the check book.

On making payment to the seller, for the silver purchased, the Clerk should simply record the transaction, in his Cash or Day Book, as "Paid Gold coins for Silver Purchases No. .... $ ...." No Journal Entry can be made at this stage, and (as will be soon explained) it can be better made at the end of each month or quarter, to cover a series of transactions, as is your practice in other cases.

Silver thus purchased is treated as in all other cases of deposits of silver. The weight is filled up for the Assayer who makes his report on the quality, and the value is calculated as usual, that is at the rate of 412½ grains of standard silver to the dollar. This is the "intrinsic value" to which reference is had in the 3d section of the silver bill.

The Superintendents warrant is drawn for that sum, and as a matter of form receipted by the Treasurer, though of course nothing is to be paid to him. The warrants thus receipted constitute a voucher, in due form, for ~~the~~ so much money paid from the Bullion Fund ~~for~~ as the "intrinsic" value of silver purchased. The transactions are journalized in all respects as in other cases of deposit, or payment for, silver bullion, at the close of each month, or quarter.

But inasmuch as the Treasurer has paid more than the intrinsic value of the silver, in consequence of the premium, and as the law provides that he shall take credit for this difference between the actual cost, and the intrinsic value, it will be necessary for the Superintendent to issue a warrant as follows:

Branch Mint N. Orleans

To the Treasurer.

Charge Profit & Loss on Silver, and credit Gold Coinage with ——— dollars, being the difference between the intrinsic value, in dollars of Silver, of silver bullion purchased for coinage, and the price paid therefor, from ——— to ——— 1853.

And for so doing this shall be your Warrant

Silver Profit & Loss }
$ ——— }

Supt.

This warrant should be accompanied by a statement showing the gross weight of silver purchased, the cost thereof, the value on assay, estimated in dollars; and reference should be made to the warrants. As an abstract in detail of these particulars is, to a great extent, supplied by the usual abstract of Silver Deposits, it will I have no doubt be satisfactory to present them in aggregate only.

In estimating the value of silver with the Melter & Refiner and Coiner you will calculate the standard weight at 412½ grains to the dollar as heretofore. In deliveries of coin by the Chief Coiner, he will be credited with the standard weight & the intrinsic value calculated as above. The surplus of silver coin actually received into the Treasury is, by special warrant, credited to Silver Profit & Loss and charged to Silver Coinage, precisely as was done in the analogous case of a gain by coinage on the threecent pieces.

As the subject may be clearly illustrated by an example, I will suppose that a purchase of 110,000 ounces of silver is made, at $1.21 cents an ounce; costing therefore $133,100. Upon assay the intrinsic value estimated in silver dollars, is found to be $128,000.

The Journal Entries will be Silver Bullion Deposited for Coinage Dr. to E. C. D. Treasurer $128,000: F. P. Coiner Dr. to S. B. deposited for Coinage $128,000. Silver Coinage Dr. to F. P. Coiner (or Coins ap of Silver) $128,000. and to Silver Profit & Loss, for gain on coinage $9,500: E. C. D. Treas. Dr. to S. Coinage for value of deposit $128,000 (vouched by signed warrants): Silver Profit & Loss Dr. to Silver Coinage for net premium on silver (difference between $128,000 & $133,100) = $5,100 You will observe that Silver Coinage is thus made Cr. for the payments on purchase of silver, which will be correct if the payment is in the new silver coins. And as a matter of convenience we, at this Mint, always credit silver coinage in like circumstances; at the end of the month or quarter a Journal Entry is made charging Silver and crediting Gold Coinage for such an amount as will make those accounts correspond with the respective amounts of silver coins & gold coins on hand.

If there be any points on which the explanations now presented are not sufficiently clear, you will oblige me by calling my attention to them.

very respectfully
your obt servt
T. M. Pettit
Director

R. M. McAlpin, Esq
Supt. &c. New Orleans.

T/A

Thos D. Atkinson
Prest

Danville Va

15 Ap 1853

To/

R. M. McAlpin.
Supt.
New Orleans

3 May 1853.

May 1853

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans, May 3d 1853

Sir

I have the honor of transmitting Summary Statements of the Deposits and Coinage at this Branch for the Month of April 1853, and of Coins reserved for Assaying from deliveries during the same period —

The Assay Coins are forwarded as usual by this days Mail —

We are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the New Silver Dies —

We want something to do — Corning & Co deposited yesterday $100.000 part of $400.000 per order of Secretary of the Treasury —

Most respy
Your obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

T. M. Pettit Esqr
Director
Philadelphia

From

R. M. McAlpin, Supt.
New Orleans
May 3/53

Recd
May 11/53

# Statement of Gold and Silver coins reserved for Assaying at the Branch Mint of the U. States New-Orleans, during the Month of April 1853.

| Date | | Deliveries | deliveries | Pieces | Value Dollars | Value Cts. | Total Value Dollars | Total Value Cts. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1853 | | Gold. | | | | | | |
| April | 9 | Double Eagles | 4.500 | 5 | 100 | 00 | | |
| | 18 | Double Eagles | 3.100 | 3 | 60 | 00 | | |
| | 21 | Double Eagles | 2.250 | 2 | 40 | 00 | | |
| | 30 | Double Eagles | 7.750 | 8 | 160 | 00 | | |
| | | | | | | | 360 | 00 |
| | | Silver | | | | | | |
| | | No delivery | | | | | | |
| | | | | | Dollars | | 360 | 00 |

Br. Mint of the U. States, N. Orleans
Treasurer's Office April 30th 1853

Wm. DeBuys
Treasurer.

H. Millspaugh
Aſsayer

Treasury Department.
Comptrollers Office
May 4 1853.

Thos M Pettit Esq
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Sir

I beg leave to enclose herewith, for your approval, the Bond of Anthony J Guirot, Coiner of the branch Mint at New Orleans. La. After it shall have been examined and approved by you, you will be pleased to transmit it to the Secretary of the Treasury.

Very Respectfully,
Elisha Whittlesey
Comptroller.

From
E. Whittlesey, Compt.
Washington
4 May 1853

Recd
5 May 1853

Mint of the United States
Philada. 4 May 1853

Sir,

In reply to your communication of the 27th ult., I have to state that dies for the new coinage, and general instructions, have already been transmitted to the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New-Orleans.

very respectfully
your obdt Servt

T. M. Pettit
Director

Jacob Barker Esq
Bk of Commerce
New Orleans.

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia May 5. 1853.

Sir.

As requested by the Comptroller of the Treasury Department, I beg leave to transmit to you the bond of A. J. Guirot Coiner of the Branch mint at New Orleans.

I have, upon the testimony furnished with the document, certified that the bond is to my satisfaction.

Very respectfully
Yr: ob: Ser:
T. M. Pettit
Director

The Hon. James Guthrie
Secy of the Treasury.
Washington.

To

Hon James Guthrie,

Secy &c

Washington

5. May 1853.

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans May 7th 1853

Sir

I have the honor to transmit enclosed Statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of the Week ending yesterday 6th Inst—

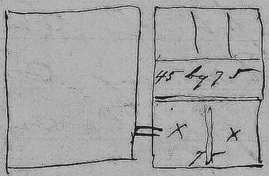
I have also to acknowledge the receipt of Six Boxes # 29 to 34 Inclusive containing Six Head and Six Tail Dies for the new issue of Twenty Five Cents Silver Coin—

Most respectfully
Your very obt Servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supdt

T. M. Pettit Esqr
Director
Philadelphia

From
Supt. at N. Orleans
May 7/53

Recd.
14 May '53


45 by 75
x
x
7ft

Mint of the United States
Philadelphia 11 May 1853

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your communications of the 30th ult. and 3d inst., the latter accompanying your Report for April, and the box of assay coins reserved.

Enclosed you will find corrected accounts, signed by the late Director, to conform with the balances properly standing to your credit here.

I also enclose a bill of lading for 100 carboys of acid shipped by Lennig & Co., part of your outstanding order for 300 carboys.

very respectfully
your faithful servant
T. M. Pettit
Director

A. M. McAlpin, Esq.
Supt. of Branch Mint
New Orleans.

Received May 25/53

To

R. M. McAlpin, Supt

New Orleans

May 11/53

From
W. DeBuys, Treas.
May 11/53

Recd.
May 12/53

Ansd. Debased or counterfeit coin
to be taken out before receipt given.
If found attempted deposit to be
declined. It is too late to correct
errors after assay.

I. M. P.

D

# NATIONAL TELEGRAPH

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE

# NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, PITTSBURGH, CINCINNATI & LOUISVILLE, THE UNITED NEW ORLEANS & OHIO & PEOPLE'S ST. LOUIS, INDIANA & LAKE ERIE TELEGRAPH LINES.

GRANITE BUILDING, 101 CHESNUT STREET - 2d STORY - BACK ROOM,

PHILADELPHIA.

Dated at N Orleans May 11 1853

Received

To T M Pettit

If there be counterfeits in purchase of silver by Secretary of Treasury which I am now receiving should I give receipt before melted, assayed: One lot Gives low Title What is your practice & your instruction received

Wm L DeBuyn

Treasurer

Branch Mint U. S.
New Orleans May 15th 1853

Sir

Not being well satisfied with the titles of three melts of Silver I enclose you three slips recd from the Assayer and have to request that you will reassay them at your earliest convenience and report titles —

My successor Mr Chas Bienvenu takes charge tomorrow —

Most respy
Your obt servt
R. M. McAlpin
Supt

T. M. Pettit Esq
Director
Philadelphia

From
Sup. at N. Orleans
13 May 53

Rec'd
May 20/53

Branch Mint. U. S.
New Orleans, May 14th 1853.

Sir,

Having been appointed superintendant of the Branch Mint at New-Orleans, and my official bond and oath having been received and approved, and having received my commission, I have the honour to inform you that I have on this day taken possession of my office.

Very respectfully

T. M. Pettit. Esq.
Director
Philadelphia.

Chs. Bienvenu
Superintendant.

P. S.

I have the honour to transmit, enclosed statement of the condition of this Branch at the close of this week ending to day 14th inst.

Most respectfully

Chs. Bienvenu
Superintendant.

T. M. Pettit
Director
Philadelphia -

From
(Chas Bienvenu, Esq
New Orleans
14 May 1853

Recd
May 21/53

# New York, Philadelphia & New Orleans Telegraph
# DIRECT.
**Office, 97 Chestnut Street,**
(SECOND FLOOR,)
PHILADELPHIA.

MORAN & SICKELS PRS.

---

*The following communication has been received:*

Dated New Orleans May 21 1853

To T M Pettit

Sir—

Please send out instructions to the coiner in regard to the new coinage

Chas Bienvenu

Tray

Branch Mint

New Orleans

21 May 53

Recd

23 May 1853

U. S. Branch Mint, May 25th 1853
New-Orleans.

Sir,

On the 21st ult. I had the Honor to address you a telegraphic Dispatch, requesting you to send instructions for the Coiner in reference to the new Coinage.

I cannot find any instructions that the old tale dies of the dimes & half dimes are to be used for the new Coins, but Dr. Bonzano, our Melter and Refiner, believes that my predecessor, has received such instructions, and on this information, I have authorized the coining of the dime & half dime with the old tale dies, but will not permit the same to be delivered to the Treasurer until I have your answer.

A sett of Standard weights for the new coins are very desirable, and would relieve us from much anxiety.

Our Coiner Mr. A. J. Guirot, having taken charge of his department on the 23d instant, we are now busily engaged in preparing for the rapid issue of the new Coins We have now on hand in silver about

700.000. Of, 350.000 of which are in
dime, half dime, quarter & half dol
ingots, a portion of which have already
been transferred to the coiner.

I have also to inform you
that our Contingent fund for this quarter
is exhausted, $1200 only remaining on
hand. I could not learn whether Congress
at its last session has made any appro-
priation to defray the expenses of this
mint, during the fiscal year ending June
30th 1854, or not.

Please inform me on this subject.
It is important that we should have the
laws, concerning the mint and coinage
of the U. S. in a form admitting of
easy reference. I am informed that it
is your intention to have a synopsis
of the said laws printed, and in that
case I would be glad to receive a
few copies.

Very respectfully your obt.

Chs. Bienvenu
Supt.

T. M. Pettit Esq.
Director, Philadelphia Mint

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 ℳ = | .80 |
| .50 | .40 |
| .25 | .20 |
| .10 | .08 |
| .05 | .04 |

From
Chas. Bienvenu, Supt.,
N. Orleans
25 May 1853

Recd.
1 June '53

Branch Mint of U. S.
New-Orleans, May 28th 1853.

Sir,

Enclosed is the Statement of the condition of the Branch Mint of U. S. at New-Orleans, at the close of the week ending ~~to~~ day, 28th inst.

with high consideration
your obt. Servt.
Chs. Bienvenu
Supt.

T. M. Pettit. Esq.
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia.

From

C. Bienvenu, Supt

New Orleans

28 May 1853

Recd

June 6/53

Mint of the United States,
Philada 28 May 1853.

Sir;

The sickness of the Director, and my own necessary absence from the Mint, have prevented an earlier reply to your letter of the 20th, relative to some instructions to be given to the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in view of a communication from Corning & Co. appearing to demand the attention of the Director.

I regret to say that Corning & Co.'s letter was not enclosed with that received from the Department, so that the particular ground of their complaint (if complaint there was) is not known to me. From the weekly statements of the Superintendent, made to this office, it appears that $628,507.03 in silver bullion have been purchased at the New Orleans Mint to the 20th inst., so that it is evident they have been actively engaged in carrying out the wishes of the Department, and the instructions from this ~~Depart~~ Office. Any difficulty encountered by Corning & Co. in disposing of their bullion must, therefore, in all probability have been already overcome.

Very respectfully
your obdt. servt.
Robert Patterson
Actg Director

Hon. Jas. Guthrie,
Secy of the Treasury.

To/
Sec. of Treasy
Washington

May 28/53

(Corning & Co)

U. S. Mint, Philada June 1/53

To/

Chas. Bienvenu,
Branch Mint
New Orleans.

~~The~~ Dimes and halfdimes ~~are~~ properly coined and
8 deliverable ~~may be delivered~~. See letter ~~of~~ May 3d. Weights preparing. ~~will be~~
6 ~~prepared~~. meantime ~~For the present~~ use ~~employ~~ hundredths ~~decimals~~ of ounce.

R. Patterson
Acting Director

ms for 100 K. = 2.2047

150 dolls for 220.

6
88
9.30
149.7 30

A
13 2
1 80

68 cents a pound

To/

Supt. at N. Orleans

June 1/53

June 1853

Silver Slips from Branch Mint of N. Orleans

A – 895
B – 894 3/4
C – 893.3

May 23. 1853

Mint of the United States
Philada 3 June 1853.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your telegraph of the 23d ult. and your letters of 25th ult., as also those accompanying your weekly statements.

In my telegraph of the 1st inst., I have probably made all the explanation necessary to cover any difficulty experienced by the Coiner, and for which you ask instructions. If any further instructions are required, they will be furnished, on the suggestion of the points respecting which there is embarrassment. In general, I may state that the Coiner will proceed, in preparing the new coins, as was done with the old ones, except that the weights must be adapted to the changes required by the law.

The slips of silver enclosed in the letter by your predecessor, dated 13 ult. have been assayed, with the following results: A = 895, B = $894\frac{1}{4}$, C = $893\frac{1}{10}$

The appropriations ~~being~~ for your establishment, for the coming fiscal year are, Salaries $17,800; wages $35,700; Incidentals $10,000.

Weights corresponding to the new coins will be forwarded. Meantime $\frac{4}{100}$ of ounce weigh a half dime; the larger pieces being therefore even hundredths of an ounce, you may weigh with them.

Respectfully

Chs. Bienvenu. Sa. F.

To/

Supt. at N. Orleans

3 June 1853

U. S. Branch Mint. New Orleans
June 4th 1853.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit Statements of the deposit~~es~~ and Coinage at this Branch Mint, for the month of May 1853, and of coins reserved for assaying from deliveries during same period

Your very obt. Servant,
Chs. Bienvenu
Supt.

T. M. Pettit.
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia.

From

C. Bienvenu, Supt.
N. Orleans
4 June 1853

Recd.
June 14/53

Mint of the United States
Philada. 9 June 1853.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge your communication of the 31st ult:, relative to the subject of silver coinage, and to the destruction of dies for silver coinage of old standard.

To your question relative to the allowance on drafts, I have to answer that the same allowances, both on drafts and on single pieces are admitted under the new silver bill as under the old. And, in general, I may say that no changes are required, in the coinage of the new pieces, except such as regard the weight.

You are correct in devoting the energies of your Mint to the coinage of the smaller silver pieces. I shall be gratified if you can succeed, by the activity of your operations, in supplying the demands of the section conveniently accessible to your Mint; as the demands on this establishment for the wants of the northern & middle & western states press very severely upon us.

I forward to day boxes 38 & 39 & 43 of dies; the two former containing head & tail ½ dollar dies, the latter head half dime dies.

C. Bienvenu, Esq.
Supt. of Branch Mint
New Orleans.

very respectfully
James Ross Snowden,
Director

Weekly Statement
of the Treasurer of the Branch
Mint, New. Orleans.
May 20th 1858.

97

C. Bienvenu, Supt
N. Orleans

June 9/53

U. S. Branch Mint. New Orleans
Superintendent's Office May 31/53

Sir,

In my letter of the 25th inst. I mentioned that we have received no instructions relating to the weights of the new coins and the devices of the dime and half dimes; since then I found your letter of the 3rd inst. which was placed inadvertently among the Treasurer's papers to give the necessary information. I presume the limits are to remain as heretofore.

I presume that it is your wish, that we should work as much of our silver as possible into small coins, which [illegible] much needed all over the country, and I have concluded to do so, unless you should see fit to give instructions to the contrary. I would moreover be gratified to receive the half dime & half dollar dies as early as possible, in order to work off rapidly the large balance of Silver now on hand, say about 850,000 Oz.

I would also inform you that the

following dies of 1853, were this day cancelled
in the presence of myself, the treasurer,
coiner and melter & Refiner,

Six half Doll. head dies
Twenty four half Doll. tale dies
Four quarter Doll. head dies.
Twelve do. do. tale dies.
Six dime —— head dies.
Six half Dime - head Dies.

Very respectfully your
most obt. Servt.
Chs. Bienvenu
Supt.

T. M. Pettit Esq.
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia.

From

C. Bienvenu, Supt

New Orleans

31 May 1853

Recd

June 9/53